

FINAL REPORT

ON THE

BHARATPUR STATE SETTLEMENT

(1900-1901).

BY

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COMPLEMENTARY

PRINTED BY

RAI SAHIB M. GULAB SINGH & SONS,
AT THE MUJID-I-AM PRESS, LAHORE.

1901.

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FINAL REPORT

ON THE

SETTLEMENT OF THE BHARATPUR STATE.

CHAPTER I.

1. The history of previous assessments and the circumstances which led up to this—the first Regular Settlement of the Bharatpur State—have been mentioned in detail in the introduction to my Report of 1898 on the northern Tahsils, and will be further noticed in the course of the present report. The operations now brought to a close may be said to have begun on 5th November 1896, when Mr. E. G. Colvin, C.S., took up the office of Settlement Commissioner of the Alwar and Bharatpur States. In the ensuing cold weather he started the preparation of the preliminary record in the four northern tahsils. Under the instructions of the Government of India, the local Patwari and Kanungo agency was utilised as far as possible. A small supervising establishment of two Sadar Munsarims and sixteen Munsarims was imported from Bengal and the North-West Provinces, and this was placed under the immediate control of Mr. A. H. Pyster, who had been engaged on survey settlement work in Bihar and Orissa, and was appointed as Mr. Colvin's Assistant in January 1897.

2. During the cold weather of 1896-97 the old maps were brought up to date in 381 out of the 479 villages in the northern tahsils, and the field books or *khasras* were generally written up. The progress made is shown in Mr. Colvin's letter No. 299-C., dated 28th April 1897, an enclosure to the Agent to the Governor-General's letter No. 1955-G., dated 15th May 1897, to the Government of India.

During the hot weather the Patwaris were collected at head-quarters for the completion of the *khasras* and the correction of areas, those shown in the maps of 1889-90 being compared with those obtained by extraction with the *bigha* comb. An attempt was also made to prepare *khataunis* and genealogical trees—a work which should have preceded rather than followed the preparation of the *khasras*; but owing to the ignorance of the Patwaris and the inadequacy or inefficiency of the supervising establishment—most of whom were drawn from Bengal settlements, and were therefore unable to understand the systems of tenure prevailing and the forms of record required in the village communities of Northern India—little progress was made in this direction; and the work, which was of a preliminary nature, had to be done over again in the following cold weather.

At the end of April 1897 Mr. Colvin was appointed Political Agent, Eastern States, Rajputana, but maintained a general control over the settlement till his transfer to Baluchistan in November.

3. On 9th July 1897 I took immediate charge of the operations. In consultation with Mr. Colvin, it was decided in the cold weather of 1897-98 to complete and attest the imperfect preliminary record of the four northern tahsils, and at the same time to bring under settlement the four central tahsils. A set of Patwari rules, drafted by Mr. Colvin, was finally passed and issued and new rules for the preparation and attestation of the record were framed. It was further decided to abandon the system of making a rough preliminary record in one year, correcting and attesting it in the next, and to push on the preparation and attestation of the record simultaneously.

4. To carry out this programme a considerable increase of establishment was required. Many of the Bengal and Hindustani Munsarims, who had been hurriedly got together, were quite unequal to the task of preparing the record on the lines required; and without sufficient direction and supervision this work could not be carried out by the Patwaris. Those men therefore had to be got rid of; and as the systems of tenure are similar to those of the Punjab, and the Government of India had suggested that the settlement be carried out after the Punjab model, I endeavoured to fill their places by borrowing selected settlement-trained Patwaris and Kanungos from Punjab districts or settlements. The good offices of the Deputy Commissioners of Hissar and Lahore and of the Settlement Officers of Montgomery and Dera Ghazi Khan enabled me to do this. The Patwaris were generally appointed Munsarims on Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 per mensem; the Kanungos as Sadar Munsarims on Rs. 40 to Rs. 60.

These men have in nearly all cases been given two or three years' leave from their own districts, so that, if their services were not required at the close of settlement, they could fall back upon their substantive appointments. In the twelve tahsils under settlement, 13 Sadar Munsarims and about 70 Munsarims were employed, of whom over half were men trained in Punjab settlements. These men were the backbone of the settlement and have generally done excellent work. I can safely assert that without them it would have been impossible to carry on the operations with accuracy or dispatch.

No Amins have been made use of in preparing the record. This has been done entirely by the local Patwaris, assisted and controlled by the Munsarims. As the Patwaris were generally ignorant of Urdu, a special staff of Moharrirs—from 10 to 20 in each tahsil—was employed for the preparation of the State copy of the record in Urdu.

5. As settlement operations extended, it was found necessary to also strengthen the supervising agency. Mr. Pyster, though an excellent Survey Officer and possessing a good knowledge of records, knew little about assessment, and could not be expected to supervise the work of twelve tahsils. These were therefore divided into three circles. The Dig circle—including the five tahsils of Kama, Dig, Kumher, Akheygarh, and Bhusawar—was put in charge of Munshi Hira Singh, an experienced Settlement Tahsildar from the Punjab, whose services on an initial salary of Rs. 200 per mensem were obtained through the Government of India. The Gopalgarh circle—including the four tahsils of Pahari, Gopalgarh, Bharatpur, and Nagar—was put under Munshi Mahmud Hosain, the State Deputy Collector, who had considerable experience of settlement work in Punjab districts and in Jhallawar. The three southern tahsils of Rupbas, Oochain, and Biyana were put under Mr. Pyster, who also exercised a general control over the central office at Bharatpur, including accounts, tracing establishment, survey equipment, stationery, etc.

6. In the Introduction to the Report of 1898 I explained the lines on which I proposed to carry on the settlement, gave a rough forecast of the probable results of re-assessment, and sketched the programme of work. There were then twelve tahsils in the State, and my proposal was to frame proposals for and re-assess the four northern tahsils—Gopalgarh, Pahari, Kama, and Dig—in the hot weather and autumn of 1898; the four central tahsils—Nagar, Kumher, Akheygarh, and Bharatpur—in the corresponding period of 1899; and the four southern tahsils—Rupbas, Oochain, Biyana, and Bhusawar—in the corresponding period of 1900, thus closing the operations—unless delayed by unforeseen contingencies—in the spring of 1901. I am happy to say that in Bharatpur, as in Alwar, I have been able to carry out my programme almost to the letter. The only departure from it had been that the new assessments of the four northern tahsils, though completed in 1898, were not, owing to the bad harvests in 1898-99, brought into working till the autumn of 1899, at the same time as those of the central tahsils. The progress made in re-assessment has been fully reported in my printed Reports of 1898, 1899, and 1900, dealing respectively with the assessments of the

northern, central, and southern tahsils, while the action taken towards (1) preparing a complete record-of-rights for the first time, (2) reorganising the Patwari and Kanungo agency so as to ensure that the record is kept up to date after the settlement has been completed, is described in the annual reports submitted to the Political Agent and Council. These reports may be referred to for any points which may have escaped my memory in this hurried attempt to give a succinct and connected account of the operations as a whole. All branches of the work have now been disposed of completely, except that (1) a considerable number of *mafi* cases are still pending, which will, I hope, be disposed of by the State Council; (2) a Revenue Manual or set of rules for the future working of the revenue administration is under preparation; but this will, I hope, be completed by 1st April and sent to the Political Agent and Council for approval.

7. This report is primarily intended to be a description of the settlement operations and their results, but I shall also endeavour to touch on all points in the Revenue administration which will require the special vigilance of the Darbar hereafter. As in my Alwar Report, the subject is dealt with under the following heads, to each of which a separate chapter is devoted:—

- I.—Introductory and descriptive.
- II.—Political and Revenue history.
- III.—Survey and Records.
- IV.—Principles and procedure in re-assessment.
- V.—Results of re-assessment.
- VI.—Distribution of the assessment over holdings.
- VII.—Revenue assignments.
- VIII.—Miscellaneous—
 - (a) landlord and tenant;
 - (b) *lambardari* system;
 - (c) other matters;
 - (d) income and expenditure of the settlement.

Of these, I, II, IV and V have been discussed in detail in the assessment report for each tahsil or group of tahsils, and I shall therefore confine myself to a brief survey of the results for the State as a whole. The remaining subjects have been also incidentally dealt with in the assessment and annual reports, and I shall aim at giving a more comprehensive explanation of them. As I have only ten days at my disposal, any omissions or imperfections will, I trust, be treated with indulgence.

8. The Jat State of Bharatpur is situated in the extreme north-east of the Rajputana Agency, and is bounded on the north by the Gurgaon district of the Punjab, on the east by the Mattra and Agra Districts of the North-West Provinces, on the south by the Rajputana States of Jaipur and Karaoli and the Jat State of Dholpur, on the south-west by Jaipur, and on the west by the Rajput State of Alwar. It lies between latitudes $26^{\circ} 43''$ and $27^{\circ} 50''$ and longitudes $76^{\circ} 54''$ and $77^{\circ} 59''$. The greatest length is 76 and the greatest breadth 48 miles, while the total area, according to the revenue survey of 1855—58, is 1,974.07 square miles, and by the village maps 1,993 square miles. The local standard of measurement is the *bigha*, which is equal to $\frac{2}{3}$ of an acre, and all the assessment statistics are based on that standard. Since the revenue survey the area may have varied slightly owing to exchange of five Bharatpur villages with five Alwar villages in 1885. In shape Bharatpur is a very irregular quadrilateral, narrowing from south to north, with spurs projecting out into Alwar on the west, Dholpur on the south, and Agra on the east. There are also some isolated villages in the Agra and Mattra districts.

9. The State is divided into the two *Nizamats* or districts of Dig and Bharatpur,—roughly northern and southern,—each containing six tahsils, but for assessment purposes it is more convenient to follow the natural geographical division, which is as follows:—

- Northern—Gopalgarh, Pahari, Kama, and Dig.
- Central—Nagar, Akheygarh, Kumber, and Bharatpur.
- Southern—Bhusawar, Biyana, Oochain, and Rupbas.

There were formerly fourteen tahsils, but the number was reduced to twelve some years ago by the inclusion of Weir in Bhusawar, which also contains the *jagir* of Ballabgarh, and of Rudawal in Oochain. During the settlement the Gopalgarh and Oochain tahsils have been dismembered—the former being divided among Nagar and Pahari, the latter among Rupbas and Akheygarh. Several other minor changes have also been made to rectify tahsil boundaries; the headquarters of the Bhusawar tahsil have been changed to Weir; and there are now only ten tahsils, which may be thus classified—

Northern—Nagar, Pahari, Kama, and Dig.

Central—Akheygarh, Kumher, and Bharatpur.

Southern—Bhusawar (now Weir), Biyana, and Rupbas.

The assessment reports follow the old division into twelve; this report the new arrangement into ten tahsils. Hence it has been necessary to re-cast all the statistics to make them applicable to present conditions. The central tahsils are level, the northern are to some extent, and the southern considerably diversified by hills. All parts are liable to sudden inundations from torrential rivers, *viz.*, the Ruparel from Alwar, and the Banganga with its tributaries—the Gambhir and Kakund—from Jaipur, running east towards the Jamna. In this lies the main difference between Bharatpur and the adjoining British districts of Gurgaon, Agra, and Mattra, with which, as regards soil, climate, and agricultural conditions, it has much more in common than with any portion of Rajputana, except perhaps Alwar. The general aspect is that of an immense alluvial plain, fairly wooded and cultivated, with detached hills on the north, a hilly and broken district on the south, and low narrow ranges on some parts of the western and north-eastern frontier. The highest elevations are :—

Alipur in Dig 1,357 feet (above sea level);

Chapra in Pahari 1,222 feet;

Damdama in Biyana 1,222 feet;

Rasiya between Dig and Naga 1,065 feet.

10. The State is exceptionally well served in the matter of communications. The central tahsils of Akheygarh and Bharatpur are intersected by the Bandikui-Agra Branch of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, which traverses the State from east to west for a distance of nearly 40 miles, and has four railway stations, *viz.*, Nadbai in Akheygarh, Heylak in Kumher, and Bharatpur and Ikran in Bharatpur.

There are besides—

- (1) 129 miles of 1st class metalled roads;
- (2) 64 „ 2nd „ unmetalled roads, raised and partly bridged;
- (3) 173 „ 3rd „ roads aligned surface tracks;

and the mileage of (1) and (2) is being steadily increased.

11. Details of the total and cultivated area of each tahsil for (a) the year of settlement (1897-98 in the northern and central tahsils, and 1898-99 in the southern) and (b) the present year 1900-1901, together with crop statistics to correspond, are given in the appendices. The following statement contains a useful summary of statistics of area, cultivation in year of settlement, land revenue (former and as now fixed), and population in 1901 :—

Lending statistics of area and jama.

Tahsils.	Detail.	Total area.	Unculturable.	CULTURABLE.		Cultivated.	Area of crops.	Old jama.	NEW JAMA.	
				Old.	New.				1899-1900.	1900-1901.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Pahari	Khalsa ...	236,057	46,497	17,024	2,627	169,909	176,420	2,05,501	2,31,190	...
	Mafi ...	3,413	27	67	13	3,306	3,342	...	3,824	...
	Total ...	239,470	46,524	17,091	2,640	173,215	179,762	...	2,35,014	...
Kama...	Khalsa ...	202,942	37,031	15,851	2,463	147,597	159,896	1,42,707	1,63,050	...
	Mafi ...	16,778	2,908	683	248	12,939	13,357	...	16,674	...
	Total ...	219,720	39,939	16,534	2,711	160,536	173,243	...	...	...
Dig ...	Khalsa ...	186,757	35,899	37,894	5,534	107,430	112,768	1,30,878	1,51,612	1,53,642
	Chauth ...	58,929	3,509	8,358	1,824	45,238	38,031			
	Istamrar ...	15,600	1,389	2,893	199	11,114	11,620			
	Mafi ...	53,675	1,824	7,319	1,114	43,418	44,193			
	Total ...	314,961	42,621	56,469	8,671	207,200	206,612	...	2,13,437	...
Kumher	Khalsa ...	239,249	32,015	60,679	12,678	133,877	136,699	1,30,087	1,48,291	1,50,374
	Mafi ...	58,505	2,852	17,663	3,076	34,914	34,886	...	40,574	...
	Total ...	297,754	34,867	78,342	15,754	168,791	171,585	...	1,88,865	...
Akhey-garh.	Khalsa ...	248,847	1,337	31,810	22,200	180,900	188,169	2,09,167	2,14,890	2,17,226
	Mafi ...	27,424	1,368	2,200	1,941	21,915	27,275	...	26,281	...
	Total ...	276,271	15,305	34,010	24,141	202,815	215,444	...	2,41,171	...
Nagar...	Khalsa ...	284,061	33,320	34,013	4,411	212,317	233,300	2,50,335	2,92,382	2,92,730
	Mafi ...	8,772	473	918	81	7,300	8,328	...	9,769	...
	Total ...	292,833	33,793	34,931	4,492	219,617	241,628	...	3,02,151	...
Bharat-pur.	Khalsa ...	271,374	27,827	107,554	11,968	124,025	126,282	1,40,257	1,57,355	1,61,074
	Mafi ...	47,279	2,288	13,406	2,634	28,951	29,392	...	34,660	...
	Total ...	318,653	30,115	120,960	14,602	152,976	155,674	...	1,92,015	...
Rupbas	Khalsa ...	321,784	45,649	99,197	9,435	167,503	181,085	2,27,212	2,27,212	2,39,796
	Mafi ...	24,195	1,364	7,447	411	14,972	16,259	...	...	...
	Total ...	345,979	47,013	106,644	9,846	182,476	197,344	...	...	...
Bijana	Khalsa ...	470,419	241,785	75,146	11,525	141,983	160,343	2,06,601	2,06,601	2,16,240
	Mafi ...	30,768	5,384	4,601	1,109	19,609	21,829	...	32,800	...
	Total ...	501,122	247,169	79,747	12,634	161,572	182,172	...	...	...
Weir ...	Khalsa ...	357,543	86,127	59,529	24,138	187,749	199,353	(1) 2,32,378	2,28,395	2,24,156
	Istamrar ...	3,134	979	127	59	1,969	20,500	(2) 34,643	...	...
	Mafi ...	22,462	1,927	2,381	1,906	16,248	17,206	...	...	...
	Total ...	383,139	89,033	62,037	26,103	205,966	237,059	...	...	...
Total State.	Khalsa ...	2,819,033	600,087	538,697	106,979	1,572,270	1,674,315	19,09,766	20,55,621	20,85,428
	Chauth ...	58,929	3,509	8,358	1,824	45,238	38,031	...	...	...
	Istamrar ...	18,734	2,368	3,025	258	13,083	32,120	...	...	...
	Mafi ...	293,206	20,415	606,765	12,533	203,973	211,047	...	...	2,83,816
	Total ...	3,189,902	626,319	121,594	121,594	1,835,164	1,955,513	...	...	...

[illegible]

12. Thus of the total area of the State—1,993 square miles—1·8 per cent. is included in *chauth* estates (which pay one-fourth of the rental instead of two-thirds), 6 per cent. is held in *istamrari* tenure, 9 per cent. or, if we include the temporary attached Ballabgarh *jagir* (area 34,603 *bighas*), 10 per cent. belongs to *jagir* and *mafi* villages and holdings, and 87·6 per cent. or seven-eighths are *khalsa*. The revenue-free area is probably smaller than in any other State in Rajputana.

Again, of the total area 20 per cent. is unculturable, consisting chiefly of hill ranges, beds of streams and *nalas*, sites of towns and villages, roads, etc., 19 per cent. is old, and 4 per cent. new fallow, making a total of 23 per cent. still available for cultivation; while about 57 per cent. is under cultivation—i.e., was actually sown with crops in the year of settlement—and about 7 per cent. of the cultivation produced two crops within the year. The figures of cultivation for the present year (1900-1901) show that, in spite of last year's famine, within the last two years cultivation has increased by 86,326, *bighas*, or nearly 5 per cent.—a signal proof of the confidence which the new settlement has inspired in the people, and also of their rapid recuperative power.

13. The new assessments did not come into force in the three southern tahsils till the autumn harvest of Rs. 1900, so that 1900-1901 may be taken as the first year of the new demand over the whole State, and this shows an initial enhancement of Rs. 1,75,662 on the old demand. Owing to the system of progressive assessment rendered necessary by (1) the temporary depressions from which many estates in the central and southern tahsils were suffering owing to drought, desertion, etc., (2) the progressive rates imposed on the *chakks* or blocks of surplus waste separately given out on cultivating leases, the final demand—Rs. 21,38,638 on the *khalsa* area (including *chauth*, *istamrari* villages and the Ballabgarh *jagir* assessed at Rs. 36,000)—will not be reached till the year 1905-1906, and this gives an enhancement of Rs. 2,28,892 on the old assessment.

The details of this final demand are :—

	Rs.
(1) Villages settled with the owners	20,37,833
(2) Villages managed by the State, but leased to cultivators for the term of settlement (Mandal, Kumher <i>kasba</i> , Bharatpur <i>kasba</i> , and Srinagar)	18,536
(3) Waste lands leased for cultivation	46,269
Total <i>Khalsa</i>	21,02,638
(4) Temporarily attached <i>jagir</i> of Ballabgarh	36,000
Grand Total	21,38,638

The incidence of the initial *jama* is Re. 1-4-6 per cultivated *bigha* or Rs. 3-3-3 per acre, and of the final demand Re. 1-5-0 per *bigha* or Rs. 3-4-6 per acre. These rates have, however, been already reduced 5 per cent. by the expansion of cultivation last year, and will be further lightened as the large amount of culturable land still available is broken up. The Zamindars have every encouragement to do this, as they will hold such new cultivation free for the 20 years' term of the new settlement. The nominal *jama* assessed on *mafi* lands, which is used to calculate the cesses due to the State and is given effect to as between the Mafidars and Zamindars where either party or both made applications during the settlement, is Rs. 2,84,061, or about 13 per cent. of the *khalsa* demand. If we include this the total final land revenue demand for all lands come to Rs. 24,22,699.

This gives an incidence of about Rs. 3-14-0 per head of total population, and excluding the cities of Bharatpur (42,997), Dig (15,309), and Kama (12,083)—which alone have a population exceeding 10,000—of Rs. 4-5-9 per head on the rural population. The incidence compares as follows with adjoining territory :—

Tahsil.							Per acre of cultivation.	Per head of population.
							Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Alwar State (1901)	...	...	...	...	...	...	*	2 11 10
Gurgaon (1895-96)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 4 0	1 13 1
Mattrā (1879)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 14 8	1 10 6
Agra (Karaoli)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 5 6	1 10 6
Punjab (1898)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 2 0	1 5 1
Bharatpur (1901)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 4 6	3 14 0

* Statistics under preparation.

So that the taxation per head of population is decidedly high.

There are in all 1,397 estates, of which 124 are held in *jagir* or *mafi*, 27 in *chauth* (paying one-fourth of the rental), 4 in *istamar* (paying a fixed permanent assessment), and 31 are State property, *viz.*, grazing preserves and the estates of Bharatpur *khas*, Srinagar, Kumber and Mandal Pahari, which are held *kham*; while the rest—1,203 estates—are *khalsa*. The latter figures, however, as well as the total number, are liable to alteration, as some of the blocks of waste land leased from village areas will eventually be formed into separate estates.

14. The population of each tahsil at the enumerations is shown in the assessment reports, but owing to the recent reconstruction I cannot show it for the present tahsils in a comparative form. I therefore give below the population for the State as a whole:—

1867.	1881.	1891.	1901.			Males	Females
743,710	645,540	640,303	347,830	292,473	625,788	334,365	291,423

The figures, besides their intrinsic interest, contain a valuable lesson. In 1867 the population was 19 per cent. higher than it is now, and the State (see para. 8 of Introduction to Report of Northern Tahsils) had, owing to a careful and wise administration during a 15 years' minority, then reached the zenith of its prosperity. Not only the population, but the cultivated area (740,000 acres) was then far in excess of what they have been at any subsequent period. The Agent to the Governor-General, writing of Bharatpur in June 1867, says:—

“The Government of this principality is beyond all comparison more just, more liberal, and more popular than that of any Chiefship in Rajputana. The people are well disposed and contented, and look forward with pleasure to the day, now not far distant, when the Government will be made over to the young Maharaja.”

These sanguine expectations were never realised, and at least up to the reorganisation of the administration soon after the death of Maharaja Jaswant Singh, the State showed a steady decline in population and cultivation. The famine of 1877-78 is of course chiefly responsible for the depopulation; but while the neighbouring State of Alwar, which suffered equally from the famine, can show an increase from 676,000 in 1881 to 829,000 in 1901, Bharatpur has in the same period shown a further decrease of 2 per cent. This is due almost entirely to maladministration under the late régime. A vicious revenue system broke down hundreds of estates and drove thousands of the agricultural population out of the State. There is also some reason for suspecting that the figures of 1891 were intentionally fudged to conceal the decrease of population, at least in the case of Bharatpur city, which shows a falling off from 67,553 in 1891 to 42,997 in 1901. Excluding this decrease, the rural population shows a slight increase of about 10,000 within the last ten years, though these cover the scarcity of 1895-96 and 1896-97 and the famine year of 1899-1900. Seeing that nearly every State in Rajputana has suffered enormous losses of population within the period—the total decrease for Rajputana being 18 per cent.—Bharatpur may congratulate itself on having come so well out of the ordeal, and this happy result is due to the improved administration, which helped the people to meet their difficulties, and by suspending the revenue demand, advancing *taccavi* and starting relief works, encouraged the people to hold on to their lands. The State can easily support a population of 800,000, and I anticipate that by the next census the population will have risen to 700,000.

The towns with a population exceeding 5,000 are:—

Towns.							1891.	1901.
Bharatpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	67,533	42,997
Dig	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,166	15,309
Kama	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,417	12,083
Kumher	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,661	6,131
Biyana	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,083	6,856
Bhusawar	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,419	6,690
Weir	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,721	5,711
Total							1,22,022	95,777

So that the urban population has decreased by 22 per cent. and is only 15 per cent. of the total, while the rural population has increased by 2 per cent. and is now 85 per cent. of the whole.

Details of the new census by religions are not yet available, but probably there has been little change from 1891, when Hindus were 93 per cent., Musalmans 6·5, and Jains 5 per cent. Possibly there has been an increase in the proportion of Musalmans, as the Meos—who form the most important element—are a prolific and, on the whole, a prosperous race.

An ugly feature of the returns is the disparity between the males (53·5 per cent. of the whole), and females (only 46·5 per cent.). Jats and Gujars form a very large element in the population; and though female infanticide has probably ceased among these classes, female children do not receive the same attention as males. The disparity is, however, less than at last census, when the proportions were males 54·5, females 45·5. In fact, while the male population has decreased by 13,500 the female population has decreased by only 1,000.

15. The following table shows in the form of percentages the proportions of area—cultivated and uncultivated—of unculturable, culturable, and cultivated land in each tahsil, and the proportion of each class of cultivation (*chahi*, *sairaba*, *barani*, etc.) to the total:—

Tahsil.	Unculturable.	CULTURABLE.			Cultivated at settlement.	Total.	CHAHIL.			Total chahi.	Nahri.	SAIRABA.				BARANI.		
		Old.	New.	Total.			Present.	Former.	Temporary.			Present.	Former.	Barishi and khadli.	Total.	Barani.	Bhur.	Total.
Pahari	19	7	1	8	73	100	4·5	2·5	5	7·5	...	12	31	7	50	40	2·5	42·5
Kama	18	7·5	1·5	9	73	100	8	4	5	12·5	...	...	17	9	26	53·5	8	61·5
Dig	13·5	18	3	21	65·5	100	16	5·5	1	22·5	...	...	4·5	7	11·5	62	4	66
Kumher	12	26	5	31	57	100	19	11	5	30·5	...	...	...	...	...	63	1·5	69·5
Akheygarh	6	12·5	9	21·5	72·5	100	20·5	5	5	26	...	3	...	...	3	69	2	71
Nagar	11·5	12	1·5	13·5	75	100	7·5	5	2	10	...	21	9	2	32	5·2	6	58
Bharatpur	9·5	38	5	43	47·5	100	18	12·5	5	31	...	11	3	...	14	52·5	2·5	55
Rupbas	14	31	3	34	52	100	9·5	6	1	16·5	...	14	16	5	30·5	47	6	53
Biyana	49·5	16	2·5	18·5	32	100	26	5	5	33·5	1	8·5	2·5	1·5	12·5	53	10	63
Weir	22·5	16·5	7	23·5	54	100	26	8·5	5	36	...	5	...	5	5·5	48·5	10	58·5
TOTAL	20	19	4	23	57	100	15·5	5·5	1	32·5	...	8	8	3	1·9	53	5·5	58·5

The unculturable area is one-fifth of the total. The proportion is highest in the two southern tahsils of Biyana and Weir, much of which is occupied by low ranges of sandstone hills, by deep ravines caused by the drainage from the hills and the uplands running to join the Banganga, Gambhir, Kakund, and their tributaries, and by the wastes of sand along the course of the Banganga and Gambhir. In the northern tahsils of Kama and Pahari the area of unculturable is also considerable, owing chiefly to the hill ranges. The northern tahsils of Dig and Nagar and the southern tahsil of Rupbas are comparatively level, and though they contain ranges of hills the area under them is small. Hence in these the proportion of unculturable is low. The central tahsils of Akheygarh, Bharatpur and Kumher consist of an almost unbroken plain of level fertile land sloping gently towards the Janna on the east, and in these there is practically no unculturable land except that under roads, buildings, tanks, etc.

The culturable area falls short of 10 per cent. in Pahari and Kama, and in Nagar is only 13·5 per cent. These tahsils have therefore little room for expansion. In Dig, Akheygarh, Biyana, and Weir it ranges from 18·5 to 23·5 per cent., or, say, from one-fifth to one-fourth of the total area; in Kumher and Rupbas it reaches nearly one-third; while in Bharatpur it is over two-fifths and nearly equal to the area under cultivation. For the whole State the culturable area is equal to two-fifths of the area under cultivation, and is generally of good quality, so that there is room for the latter to expand by at least 25 per cent. without encroaching unduly on the margin required for pasture. With a proper revenue administration I see no reason why such an expansion should not take place within the term of the present settlement. Most of this land was formerly under cultivation, but the famine of 1877-78, followed by an oppressive revenue administration and the encroachments of the wild cattle in the central tahsils, demoralised the agricultural population.

About 86,000 *bighas*, or over one-eighth of the recorded culturable area, has been broken up within the last two years, and this is a good augury for the future. The cultivated area in the new settlement comes to 57 per cent. of the total area—the proportion varying from 32 per cent. in Biyana to nearly three-fourths in Pahari, Kama, Akheygarh, and Nagar.

Before proceeding to describe the chief agricultural conditions, it will be convenient to refer briefly to the topography, geology, and climate. The following account is taken from the Rajputana Gazetteer, Volume I—a work which is now very rare :—

“ The general superficial configuration of the State is flat and rather low, especially towards the north, where it is depressed into a shallow basin. The average height above the sea is about 600 feet, and above the waterway of the Jumna about 50. The uniform character of the country is interrupted by detached hills in the north, by a hilly district in the south, and by low ranges on some parts of the western and south-eastern frontier. The general aspect is that of an immense alluvial plain, fairly wooded and cultivated, interspersed with villages and occasional towns. In the hot weather the appearance of the country is arid and parched, variegated in places with patches of white saline efflorescences. In the rains, owing to the low level, a considerable amount of the surface is flooded, and afterwards the soil is well clothed with vegetation, but it cannot be said to be luxuriant. The scenery is consequently extremely tame and monotonous, with the exception of some picturesque views in the southern mountainous parganas. A great part of the country is not naturally fertile, the soil being hard and dry, and in places deteriorated with sand. It also suffers from the want of water, but is rendered productive by the industry of the inhabitants in irrigating and cultivating it, so that the traveller from Rajputana cannot fail being impressed with the prosperous appearance of Bharatpur, where almost every part is cultivated, contrasting strongly with the barren aspect of other parts.

Geology, hill ranges, and minerals :
Geology.

“ There is no geological survey of this State. The following description, however, may be considered a short general view of the subject :—

“ The formation of Bharatpur is almost entirely of the sedimentary class. There are no granitic rocks, and the amount of either metamorphic or volcanic is very small, the igneous rocks occurring only in small amounts, and isolated and detached among the aqueous. The exposed rocks may be divided into three classes—(1) alluvial, (2) the series called Vindhyan, and (3) the series called quartzite, in which order they are described.

"Bharatpur forms part of the alluvial basin of the Ganges and Jamna, consequently the great majority of the exposed rocks are alluvial, consisting of

(1) Alluvial. modern alluvial deposit with blown sand, which the wind carries from the desert of Rajputana, and occasionally forms into mounds on the leeward of some natural inequality in the surface. It might be said of the greater part of Bharatpur what Sidney Smith said of Holland: 'It is the place of eternal punishment of geologists, all mud and no stone by substituting "clay" for "mud"'. The soil is of considerable depth, though the *humus* is shallow, owing to the imperfect system of tillage, and has alternations of thin strata of sand and sandy impermeable clay, and beneath are ancient alluvial deposits with fresh-water shells of the *mollusca*, and occasionally *kankar* (nodular masses of impure calcine carbonate) and clay, shale and laterite.

"The Vindhyan occurs in the range which runs from Fatehpur Sikri towards Hindann. The range belongs to the Upper Vindhyan division, and two of its sub-divisions—the Bhanver and Riwa—are represented, the former extensively.

"The main range is formed of Upper Bhanvers, consisting almost entirely of sandstone of various texture and colour, varying from a very fine rock to almost conglomerate. The prevailing colour is brick-red, with white spots or streaks, sometimes green and yellowish white, occurring sometimes in alternate beds of considerable thickness. The ridge, which runs parallel with, and to the west of, the above range in pargana Rudawal, is probably formed of Riwa: this appears likely both from the character of the stone and the dip of the strata—the general characteristics of the Riwa being coarse greyish white, while those of Bhanver are fine red, speckled or streaked with white. In some places these differences are well marked; in others they merge into each other. The ridge consists of sandstone in massive strata and false-bedded flags, usually hard and compact, occasionally vitrified, and reddish or yellowish in colour. In some places, thick shaly beds, mostly quartz or silex, but sometimes clay, are found. Some specimens of the sandstone approach to conglomerate, the pebbles being quartz or red jasper and the matrix purple. Other specimens are more like breccia.

"The hills west of Biyana, and divided from the Sidgirpahar by the catchment basin of the Gambhir river, are formed of quartzite sandstone interstratified with trap and shale. All the hills in the north and west are of the same character, with limestone, hornstone, transition slate, silicious beds, schists, and ferruginous conglomerates.

"The principal hills are a low range forming the boundary between parganas Pahari and Gopalgarh of Bharatpur, and Ferozepore and Alwar, for about 20 miles, the highest point of which (Chapra) is 1,222 feet high. Its general direction is from north to south.

"The Kalapahar, in Akheygarh pargana, close to the Alwar frontier, contains the highest summit in Bharatpur, viz., Alipur, 1,351 feet high. The Sidgirpahar range runs on the south-eastern frontier between the parganas of Rupbas and Biyana of Bharatpur, and Sarehundi of Agra. The general direction is from north-east to south-west, and the length about 30 miles; the highest point is Usera, 817 feet. In it are situated the celebrated Bansi Paharpur stone quarries. The range becomes broken in the southern part of Biyana into irregular branches, which help to form the district called the Dang—a tract completely broken up with ravines, very difficult of access, and covered with jungle—the highest portions forming a plateau. North-west and parallel to this is an interrupted range running through Rudawal to the south of Biyana, which by its southern extremity helps also to form the Dang.

"The other hills in the south consist of two broken, irregular ranges, running generally in a parallel direction, with several offshoots through the parganas of Weir and Biyana from north-west to south-east. The highest point is Damdama, 1,215 feet. These are separated from the Sidgirpahar range by the Gambhir river. The old fort of Biyana is situated on one of them. In the north there are several groups of detached hills, which form an interrupted chain in Kaman, Gopalgarh and Dig, terminating in Nagar by the Rasia peak, 1,059 feet high. Between Kaman and Mattra is another low range, which is continued into Dig. Its general direction is from north-east to south-west, and its greatest elevation at Manpur, 826 feet, in the Mattra district.

"About three miles distant from Bharatpur is a ridge running from north-east to south-west, about three miles long; the highest point is Madhoni, 714 feet high—a position with sufficient altitude to command the city with modern artillery.

"The State is poor in this respect. Copper is found in the hills in Biyana and Weir, and these mines were worked in former times, but given up, as they were found not to pay for the working. Iron is also found near Jahaaj in Biyana, but the mines are not worked. No precious stones are found. Brick-clay, kankar, etc. abound, but the quarries only require to be noticed.

Mineral products.

“The stone from the south of Bharatpur, known geologically as Upper Bhanver sandstone, has furnished materials for the most celebrated monuments of the Moghul dynasty at Agra, Delhi, and Fatehpur Sikri; it has also supplied Mattra, Dig, Bharatpur, etc. The quarries of Bansi Paharpur in Rupbas are the most celebrated. The stone is of two varieties—one dark red, generally speckled with yellowish-white spots; sometimes the white is in streaks or large irregular patches. The other is yellowish-white, homogeneous both in colour and texture, and very fine-grained. These varieties are usually found in separate quarries. The red variety is inferior for architectural purposes to the white, owing to the irregularity of its colouring (this defect is evident in the Taj, where the effect is marred in consequence), also to the liability of some specimens to disintegration from the effects of time, though others retain after three hundred years their carving almost as sharp as when fresh from the chisel: examples of both may be seen in Akbar's palace at Fatehpur Sikri. The palace of Beeral's daughter is the best specimen of this stone. The red variety is remarkable for perfect parallel lamination, on account of which, by the introduction of a series of wedges, it readily splits into suitable flags, which are much used for roofs and floors; but this quality diminishes its value in other respects.

“The yellowish-white variety is remarkable for its fineness and uniformity of texture, allowing delicate and elaborate work, while, owing to the thickness of many of the bed in which it is found, it can be procured of great size: it is also uniform in its colour. The palaces at Dig, which are considered some of the most beautiful in India, testify to the excellence of this stone. The palace, the temple, and other structures in Bharatpur are also built of it, and the cenotaphs of the Bharatpur Maharajas at Gobardhan.

“Climate may be defined as the sum of the influences of the sun on the water and soil of a place affecting health, and certain conditions of each of those factors are such in Bharatpur as to affect it unfavourably. The chief of these conditions are the following:—The mean temperature is shown to be very high, especially taking into consideration the considerable annual fluctuation, and its being subject to undulations. The air, with regard to humidity, has a tendency to extremes, and is impure from malaria. The quality of the water is generally very inferior, containing much saline impurities, principally sodium salts, also those of calcium, magnesium, with occasional iron and silica, and often much organic matter: the solids in a gallon vary from 20 to 120 grains. The conformation and elevation of the soil are unfavourable, it being flat and low, while owing to its mechanical structure the absorption of heat is great and the radiation slow, especially as there is little herbage; and its chemical composition affects the water and produces malaria. A considerable area of Bharatpur exactly represents one type of a malarious country—a low-lying, alluvial soil, with strata of sandy impermeable clay, or sand with an impermeable clay sub-soil, organic impurities, a high temperature, and an annual inundation when the water neither drains off nor is absorbed. Much improvement is possible by drainage and attending to hygiene, the latter being even more needed where putrescence is so favoured by the high temperature and humidity in and after the rainy season, when a great percentage of the population suffers from fevers, which are followed by their usual train of effects in other seasons.”

16. The natural features which have most influence on agriculture are Irrigation from natural sources. (1) the hills already described—the drainage from which fertilises an area of nearly 50,000 *bighas*, known as *sairaba barishi*, chiefly in the northern tahsils, and (2) the torrential streams which have been trained or dammed so as to inundate with more or less regularity an area of nearly 300,000 *bighas* of cultivation, in which *rabi* crops—gram alone, or mixed with wheat and barley, oil-seeds, etc.,—are generally sown. The land usually flooded and actually inundated in the year of attestation has been classed as *sairaba hal*; that occasionally flooded, but not in the year of attestation, is recorded as *sairaba sabika*.

The two great sources of these annual inundations are—

(1) the Ruparel from Alwar in the northern tahsils;

(2) the Banganga and its tributaries, the Gambhir and Kakund from Jaipur, and Karauli, which are of enormous benefit to the three southern tahsils, as well as to Bharatpur and part of Akheygarh.

The only tahsil which benefits from neither source is Kumer, which has practically no *sairaba* cultivation.

Bharatpur is thus in the fortunate position of deriving immense advantages from the inundations of streams, the catchment areas of which lie

chiefly in other States. The position is a delicate one, and the admitted vested rights of Bharatpur in both the Ruparel and the Banganga have been the subject of long and acute controversy with Alwar and Jaipur respectively. The history of these discussions has been given at length in my assessment reports, which should be referred to for details. Both streams are dependent on the rains for their supply.

17. The Rnparel has an excellent catchment of nearly 500 square miles in Alwar. It is fed by springs at its source and here and there along its course, but the flow is inconsiderable, except during and for some time after the monsoon rains, and in places it dries up altogether during the rainless months. Alwar and Bharatpur are supposed to share equally in the irrigation; but it has been finally ruled that Alwar should receive its equivalent from (1) the Siliserh *band* near Alwar city, which intercepts part of the catchment drainage, and (2) the right to erect temporary dams in the stream during the eight rainless months (10th October to 9th June); while Bharatpur has the right to the unrestricted flow during the monsoon period (10th June to 9th October) in each year. The area inundated in Bharatpur varies from 50,000 to 80,000 *bighas* annually, according to the rainfall in the Alwar hills. The floods are distributed by the great Sikri *band* in the Nagar tahsil—14 miles long—and a number of subsidiary retaining and distributing works. The Nagar tahsil and the south of Pahari are chiefly benefited, but if the floods are exceptionally high they penetrate by an old channel to the north of Pahari and to Kama, and by a more recent channel through the Kakra *band* to Dig city, whence a canal was cut by Lieut. Home, R. E., in 1866-67, to bring them through Kumher to the Moti jhil *band* near Bharatpur city.

18. The Banganga is in flow only during the monsoon months. Before reaching Bharatpur it has a catchment area of 1,466 square miles—401 in Alwar and 1,065 in Jaipur—chiefly in hilly country. This does not include the catchment area of 324 miles west of the Ramgarh dam in Jaipur, which the State was allowed to utilise in 1897, on the distinct understanding however that Bharatpur ^{was} ~~was~~ entitled to submit to the final arbitration the Agent to the Governor-General its ~~claim~~ compensation for damage (if any) actually caused by the work. The dam has, I believe, now been constructed, and its effect on the Banganga floods in Bharatpur should be carefully watched, as the latter State is now in a position to utilise all the Banganga supply.

The Runganga floods were formerly, owing to the neglect of the old irrigation works by the late Maharaja, the cause of widespread ruin and agricultural depression, not only along the course of the stream in Bharatpur, but also further west in the Agra district; and the remonstrances of the Government of the North-Western Provinces led to the appointment of Mr. J. A. Devenish as Executive Engineer in 1895, with the primary object of controlling them. Since then there have been no further complaints of damage from Agra, chiefly because the irrigation works undertaken for the proper distribution of the floods have caused them to be freely utilised in Bharatpur, and converted them from a curse into a blessing. Mr. Devenish writes on this subject:—

“The conditions now are that we use nearly all, if not all, of the floods of the Banganga river. It is possible that in an exceptionally heavy flood a small proportion of the water finds its way beyond the Bharatpur borders. We use certainly all the water of moderate and light floods for irrigation. This use of the water has been effected by the restoration of old works and by the construction of new channels and tanks.”

✓ In 1898-99 about 60,000 *bighas* were irrigated by such works from the Banganga alone. In the present year, owing to the action taken for breaking up the large areas of land that had become waste owing to water-logging and the ravages of the wild cattle, that area has been considerably increased. When the projects now under construction are completed, if sufficient funds are allotted for the work and the active co-operation of the Revenue authorities insisted on, the Banganga floods should irrigate from 100,000 to 125,000 *bighas* or 40,000 to 50,000 acres of excellent cultivation in average years and will become the most valuable asset the State possesses.

The Ruparel floods are very fertilising, as they never leave deposits of sand, and the land renews its vigour every year and requires no manure. The Banganga floods, on the other hand, contain sand in deposit, which is often discharged close to the channel, and in the past threw considerable areas out of cultivation. The damage from this source has however been much reduced since the inundations have been brought under control.

19. After the Ruparel and Banganga the most important stream is the Gambhir (para. 8 of Report on Southern Tahsils), which enters Biyana on the south-west from Jaipur, receives the drainage of several *nalas* from the Biyana and Rupbas hills, and runs north-east for a distance of 35 miles to Karka in Rupbas, where it formerly united with an old channel of the Banganga; but this channel no longer carries any of the Banganga floods, which are tapped further west for irrigation. From Karka the Gambhir has a further course of 25 miles due east through the State before it enters Agra. The Gambhir floods are not so extensive as those of the Banganga, but they are fertilising and very beneficial.

Beyond two cuts at Bakoli and Dalwagaon to fill some dams in the Rupbas tahsil, there are as yet no irrigation works on the Gambhir. I believe however the Executive Engineer has his eye on a suitable site for a large dam close to Biyana.

20. The Kakund stream from Karaoli is, or rather was, the chief affluent of the Gambhir. It is now most effectively dammed by the great Barota band in Biyana (para. 9 of Report on Southern Tahsils), which has recently been completed at a cost of 2½ lakhs, and in 1899-1900 irrigated over 10,000 *bighas* in Biyana and Rupbas, chiefly through the sluices. In 1899 the dam filled up to escape level—45 feet above the bed—and the area submerged was 5 square miles with a cubic content of 1,500 million cubic feet.

When the channels are complete and the irrigation developed the area should expand to 25,000 *bighas* in a normal year. Nearly all this area will be irrigated by means of ducts from the *chahi*, and the following crop rates have recently been fixed which are exclusive of the land revenue assessed:—

Kharif crops per bigha.	Rabi crops per bigha.
Sugarcane, Rs. 2-8-0. Maize, cotton and zira, Rs. 2. Jewar, bajra and other kharif crops, Re. 1.	Opium, Rs. 2-8-0. Wheat, barley and zira, Rs. 2. Wheat and barley, mixed with gram, Re. 1-8-0. Gram alone, Re. 1.

Where the land irrigated from the channels has already been assessed at *chahi* rates, only half the above water-rates should be charged.

21. I am unable to find space in this report for reference to the many irrigation works which have been constructed or restored by the Executive Engineer since 1895. They have been noticed in the various assessment reports, and I understand that a comprehensive account of them has lately been prepared by Mr. Devenish, which should be separately printed. Were it not for these works the land revenue would have had to be reduced at least in the southern tahsils in the present settlement instead of being substantially enhanced; and as the remarks I made in reporting on the assessments of the southern tahsils are applicable to the State generally, I reproduce them here:—

“One of the most important questions of revenue administration in these tahsils is the efficient maintenance of the irrigation system for controlling and distributing, in a manner beneficial to the cultivators, the floods of the Banganga, Kakund, Gambhir and other torrential streams by means of the great system of irrigation dams, reservoirs, and canals which have been restored, extended, or newly constructed with remarkable success within the last 5 years by the State Engineer, Mr. J. A. Deyenish. On these works the prosperity of these tahsils largely depends, and any relaxation of the system of continuous supervision and

development will at once react on the land revenue realisations. For this purpose the State will always need the services of a thoroughly competent Engineer with special knowledge of canal and dam irrigation. Besides securing the payment of the land revenue now assessed, there is also ample scope for developing the direct income from water-rates.

"In the present assessment I have noted for each estate whether the water-rate for irrigation from State works is included in or excluded from the *jama*. In many of the larger works—such as the Barota *band*, the Lalpura *band*, and the canals from Haleyna, Pathena, etc., constructed within the last few years—the water-rate has been excluded and will be levied on the area actually inundated and sown from year to year according to the principles explained in para. 116 of my Report. Even where the water-rate has been included in the assessment, any appreciable extension of irrigation beyond the area recorded at settlement will have to pay separate water-rates. To work this system and maintain and extend the irrigation works a skilled professional agency working in close touch with the Revenue Department is absolutely necessary.

After careful calculation I have come to the conclusion that the value of this irrigation throughout the State in the re-assessment now completed is about 5 lakhs per annum or nearly one-fourth of the land-revenue, and from this I trust the Darbar will realise of what vital importance it is to the State and to the people that the irrigation system should be maintained and judiciously extended, so as to yield results which will justify a further enhancement of the State revenues at next settlement."

The area of *sairaba* lands—excluding *sairaba barishi*—which are dependent on these irrigation works is nearly one-sixth of the total area of cultivation. The proportion is *nil* in Kumher, 5 per cent. or under in Dig, Akheygarh and Weir, from 10 to 20 per cent. in Kama, Bharatpur and Biyana, and 30 per cent. or more in Pahari, Nagar, and Rupbas.

22. The proportion of *chahi* cultivation in each tahsil and its different classes are given in para. 33. It is 10 per cent. or less in Pahari and Nagar, where *sairaba* cultivation is highly developed, and the well water is often of bad quality or (in the old tahsil of Nagar) insufficient in quantity. In Kama and Rupbas the proportion is also low—from 10 to 20 per cent. In the former tahsil the water is often brackish and the spring level far from the surface; in great part of the latter tahsil the supply is poor and the quality indifferent. In all the remaining tahsils the *chahi* area ranges from slightly under one-fourth to a little above one-third of the total cultivation, the proportion being highest in Biyana and Weir, where the wells are generally sweet. For the whole State the *chahi* area comes to 22·5 per cent. or two-ninths of the total, while it pays over 40 per cent. of the revenue demand. The classifications of *chahi* land are:—

Chahi hal—irrigated in the year of attestation.

Chahi sabika—not irrigated within the year, but irrigable and irrigated in recent years.

Temporary chahi—actually irrigated in the year, but from temporary sources, e.g.; *dher*s and *dhenklis* constructed owing to drought, etc.

Chahi sairaba, chahi-nahri—lands irrigated from wells, and also by natural flooding or by canals,

The first three classes are found in all tahsils; the last two were added in the southern tahsils, as the well lands, which have also the advantage of natural flooding or canal irrigation are superior in quality. The large proportion of *chahi sabika*—i.e., land attached to and commanded by wells, but not actually irrigated within the year in certain tahsils, especially Pahari, Kama, Kumher, Rupbas and Bharatpur—is due to (1) the insufficiency of the well water owing to the drought of recent years; or (2) the want of sufficient cattle to work the well to its full extent; or (3) the large number of brackish or bitter wells, the water of which, if constantly applied to the same fields, causes the soil to deteriorate, so that the land must often be left fallow or a *barani* crop grown to clear the soil of the saline impurities.

On the other hand, where the well water is sweet—as in Akheygarh, Biyana, and most of Weir—double cropping on *chahi* lands is very common, maize, cotton or *bajra* in the *kharif* being followed by wheat, barley, or *sira* (cummin) in the *rabi*.

23. The following table shows by percentages the proportion of sweet,

Classification of wells by oily, brackish, and bitter wells in each tahsil:—
quality of the water.

Wells.	Pahari.	Kama.	Dig.	Kumher.	Akheygarh.	Nagar.	Bharatpur.	Rupbas.	Biyana.	Weir.	Total State.
Sweet	48	58	45	30	58	42	32	72	87	75	60
Oily ... ..	...	...	...	2	7	...	...	2	3	4	2
Brackish	15	30	20	23	14	18	22	11	5	10	15
Bitter	37	12	35	45	21	40	46	15	5	11	23
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

In the year of attestation (1897-98 in the northern and central tahsils and 1898-99 in the southern) there were 10,368 masonry wells and 4,752 *kacha* wells at work, while 2,724 masonry wells were left unworked for one reason or the other, the chief being—(1) the crops were grown with the aid of the annual inundations; (2) the wells had run dry owing to the continued drought; (3) where the well water is very bitter, as in Kumher and parts of Bharatpur, half of the wells—and this is especially the case with *kacha* wells—are worked in one year, half in the next, *barani* crops being grown in the alternate years.

Of the masonry wells in actual work, 60 per cent. are sweet and 40 per cent. are oily, brackish, or bitter. The number of masonry wells in the three southern tahsils is equal to that in the remaining seven; and as from three-fourths to seven-eighths of the wells are sweet, it is in these tahsils that well cultivation is most successful. In Kumher, Bharatpur, Dig, Pahari, and Nagar the majority of the wells are brackish, oily, or bitter. No *khari* crops—such as cotton, maize, or *bajra*—are grown on such wells as a rule, and the *rabi* crops, unless aided by good autumn and winter rains, are apt to be inferior. *Kacha* wells are found in all tahsils, but are most numerous in Kumher, Dig, Kama, Biyana, Bhusawar, and Bharatpur, in which from one-third to one-sixth of the *chahi* area is irrigated from this source. They can also be sunk freely in the flooded lands of Pahari, Nagar, and Bharatpur; and though, owing to the moisture in the subsoil, they do not last for more than a few years under such conditions, they are a most valuable resource in years of drought.

24. The average depth to the spring-level and of the water, as well as

Spring level and area irrigated per lao. the average area irrigated per lao or well-wheel, are shown in the following table:—

Tahsils.						DEPTH		Area irrigated per lao in bighas.
						To water.	Of water.	
Pahari ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	20	19	15
Kama ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	32	19	12
Dig ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	35	16	10
Kumher ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	33	17	16
Akheygarh ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	39	12	18
Nagar ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	38	16	14
Bharatpur ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	20	17	16
Rupbas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	20	11	13
Biyana ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	25	20	15
Weir ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	32	13	17
Total of State ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	30	16	15

These figures are for the years 1897-98 and 1898-99; but in the drought of 1899-1900 there was a still further contraction in the water-supply (see Assessment Report of Central and Southern Tahsils), which in Akheygarh, Rupbas and Weir threw a considerable number of wells out of working. The favourable rains of the last year and the restoration of the dams in Rupbas and Weir—on the maintenance of which the supply of well water depends in many villages—has caused some improvement, but a few years of good steady rainfall are needed to restore the water-supply to the normal.

The area irrigated per *lao* varies from 4 to $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres, according to water-supply and other conditions, and for the whole State averages 6 acres. The above figures relate to masonry wells. In *kacha* wells, which depend rather on surface and subsoil drainage than on subterranean springs, the water level is generally nearer the surface, but the supply is more scanty and the irrigating power per *lao* or well-wheel is only from one-half to two-thirds of that on a masonry well.

25. For details as to the increase or decrease in wells within the last ten years,—i.e., since the incomplete settlement of 1890—
Increase and decrease in wells. I may refer to the assessment reports.

The general result is—(1) there has been a slight increase in the number of masonry wells, but owing to the drought the irrigating capacity of the wells has been much reduced, and the saline qualities of the bitter or brackish wells aggravated. Hence there has been a contraction in the area so irrigated, and about 20 per cent. of the masonry wells are temporarily out of work. (2) On the other hand, the drought gave a great stimulus to the sinking of *kacha* wells and temporary *dhers* and *dhenklis* wherever conditions of soil and water allowed of their construction. The number of such wells and the area irrigated from them has risen considerably in certain tahsils. But (3) this resource has not made good the contraction of the irrigation from masonry wells, and in nearly all tahsils the total *chahi* area at this settlement and the area actually irrigated within the year show an appreciable falling off. Given normal rainfall, average years, and an efficient maintenance of the irrigation dams, an improvement in the water-supply and an increase in the area irrigated may be counted upon, as the number of wells is existence in now greater than before.

26. The State by pursuing a liberal and judicious policy in the matter of *takavi* can contribute materially towards this result. In the past it has not done sufficient in this respect, as the following figures, showing the advances for wells since 1890-91, prove :—

Tahsils.							Advanced.	Recovered.	Arrears.
Northern tahsils	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,664	13,150	4,514
Central tahsils	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,041	22,777	3,264
Southern tahsils	...	...	...	...	...	...	45,343	39,686	5,657
Total							89,048	75,613	13,435

The average is about Rs. 10,000 per annum. The results have been most successful in the southern tahsils, where no less than 151 new wells have been sunk and 65 repaired with the aid of *takavi*, while 10 are under construction. These figures do not include the advances made in last year's famine. But

throughout the State generally the *takavi* system has not been worked as freely as it should. In this respect Bharatpur might well borrow a leaf from Alwar, where a liberal and judicious *takavi* expenditure within the last thirty years has contributed immensely to the prosperity of the State and the improvement of its revenues, and where this year alone a lakh of rupees is devoted to the purpose. The *takavi* advances in Bharatpur are given free of interest, but hitherto have not been popular with the people, (1) because there is often uncertainty whether the money may not be thrown away owing to the well water turning out bitter, and (2) the system of realisation has been harsh, the first instalment being recovered from the harvest in which the advance is given. The State has now made an important concession in the latter respect, as under the new rules the realisation will not begin for one and a half years after the advance has been made and will be spread over a period of three years or six harvests. These changes will, it is hoped, make the system more popular, and if at the same time a substantial sum of *takavi* is allotted in each year's budget, distributed over tahsils according to the circumstances of each, and the Tahsildars made responsible for utilising these grants to the best advantage, a steady increase in wells and in the *chahi* area may be counted upon, Statistics of the different kinds of wells in use, *viz.*—

- (1) Masonry—made of stone or brick cemented with mortar ;
- (2) *Pathraura*—made of loose stone locally quarried and roughly dressed, but without mortar or cement ;
- (3) *Kacha-pakka*—which have a masonry lining of from 10 to 20 feet from the mouth ;
- (4) *Kacha*—which have no stone or masonry work, and can only be sunk where the subsoil is firm,—

have been given in the assessment reports. The cost of a masonry well ranges from Rs. 300 to Rs. 1,200, according to the depth and the nature of the subsoil. A *kacha* well costs from Rs. 30 to Rs. 100, and may last from two years to twenty.

27. No less than 58·5 per cent. of the cultivated area is *barani*,—*i.e.*, directly dependent on the rainfall,—while the success of the *chahi* and *sairaba* crops also depends largely on the rainfall.

the rainfall being sufficient to replenish the wells, fill the tanks, and inundate the *sairaba* lands sufficiently to enable *rabi* crops to be sown. The rainfall statistics, which are available only from 1886, have been discussed in the assessment reports. Rain-gauges are maintained in each tahsil at the local dispensary, and the results are recorded by the Hospital Assistants. For Nagar I could get no data, and took the mean of the tahsils of Gopalgarh in Bharatpur and Govindgarh in Alwar. For Kumher the figures were obviously wrong, and I took the mean of Dig and Bharatpur, which are respectively 10 miles due north and south. In Weir there are gauges at Weir and Bhusawar, and there also I took the mean. The following table shows the annual and average fall for the fourteen years, 1886-87 to 1899-1900, and I have also shown the fall for the present year 1900-1901 :—

Tahsil.	Station.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-1900.	1900-1901.
Pahari	Pahari	30-84	30-57	33-70	35-05	28-20	32-17	28-60	34-51	32-69	20-33	15-20	15-64	13-35	18-16	21-89
Kama	Kama	22-19	27-88	26-75	18-20	33-85	26-02	28-40	38-50	45-80	23-06	18-47	17-48	15-59	16-03	34-10
Dig	Dig	23-74	33-81	18-03	25-10	30-50	23-56	31-26	29-90	25-31	18-34	31-07	24-30	17-28	14-26	30-59
Kumhor	Kumhor	23-74	33-81	18-03	25-10	30-50	23-56	31-26	29-90	25-31	18-34	31-07	24-30	24-18	22-02	22-50
Akheygarh	Akheygarh	22-14	33-49	26-14	16-90	21-70	26-91	29-38	23-41	31-32	15-31	17-36	24-53	14-22	12-48	24-56
Nagar	Not given.															
Bharatpur	Nagar	22-45	39-58	18-80	19-05	23-35	37-36	36-24	34-25	32-19	22-62	14-90	25-28	24-20	21-98	30-73
Rupbas	Rupbas	24-47	17-57	30-01	25-40	26-00	33-18	24-75	13-09	29-76	18-83	10-35	23-94	18-78	25-14	27-62
Biyana	Oochain	19-18	30-46	21-55	20-60	20-70	33-23	22-85	24-75	27-70	19-51	11-02	24-88	25-67	21-22	24-08
Weir	Biyana	18-54	29-83	27-34	32-45	24-40	38-56	29-90	28-29	42-90	18-36	8-31	10-40	28-49	24-44	24-25
	Bhusavar	24-77	29-06	22-19	30-60	23-85	37-45	28-34	21-73	37-92	12-04	15-19	19-12	18-23	16-59	26-01
	Weir	20-22	31-56	28-08	31-40	25-80	33-32	39-57	24-27	31-64	12-18	14-31	22-53	27-64	...	...
Total		232-28	337-62	271-52	270-85	283-85	345-26	330-75	302-63	362-69	192-12	187-75	232-42	227-63	165-62	273-33
Average of years		22-93	30-69	24-08	25-44	25-80	31-39	30-07	27-51	32-97	18-47	17-07	21-13	20-69	19-56	27-33

Thus the average for the whole State for the period of fourteen years is 25·05 inches. Taking the normal rainfall as between 20 and 30 inches, we find that in four years—1887-88, 1891-92, 1892-93, and 1894-95—the rainfall was abnormally heavy, and in three years—1895-96, 1896-97, and 1899-1900—it has been abnormally light. The deficiency has been particularly marked in the last five years, but the present year (1900-1901) shows an improvement which, it is to be hoped, marks the beginning of a favourable cycle.

The variations between the different stations on an average of years are not considerable, though from year to year they are often very marked. Generally speaking, the eastern tahsils,—Kama, Dig, Kumher and Bharatpur,—which are nearer the Jamna-Ganges Valley and more open to the influence of the monsoon current from the Bay of Bengal, have a better rainfall than the western tahsils—Akheygarh and Nagar—adjoining Alwar. But local topographical conditions, *e.g.*, the hills in the northern and southern tahsils, have also considerable influence, and often account for abnormally heavy falls, *e.g.*, over 40 inches in Biyana and Kama in 1892-93. On the whole, the rainfall approximates very closely to that of the adjoining Agra and Mattra districts, the averages of which are—Agra Observatory, 29·12; Fatehpur Sikri, 25·82; Mattra, 26·48 inches; and the State may be said to enjoy a good and fairly regular rainfall, which renders it more secure against famine and scarcity than most parts of Rajputana.

28. Over 90 per cent. of the rainfall is registered within the six months, Uncertainty of the winter rains. —April to September inclusive,—and the average in the six cold-weather months is only about 2 inches. For the *rabi* crop the really beneficial rain is that of December, January, and February (rain in March being injurious), and the average of these months is less than one inch in the southern tahsils, in the central and northern from $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Even this meagre amount is very uncertain, and in three out of the last five years it has failed completely with most disastrous results to the *sairaba* and *barani* crops. Hence, though the *barani* lands throughout the State are generally well adapted for spring crops—gram, *bejar*, oilseeds, etc.—the uncertainty of the winter, as compared with the monsoon rains, makes the autumn crops more popular and certain. When, however, late autumn rains enable the land to be sown for the *rabi*, and these are followed by good winter rains, an enormous area—some of it having been already cropped in the *kharif*—is put under spring crops. Thus in the present *rabi* there are over 400,000 *bighas* of *sairaba* and *barani* crops, while last year the area was not more than 100,000 *bighas*.

29. The sub-divisions of *chahi* into (1) *chahi hal*, (2) *chahi sabika*, (3) temporary *chahi*, and in the southern tahsils also (4) *chahi nahri* Soil classifications. and (5) *chahi sairaba*, and of *sairaba* into (1) *hal*, (2) *sabika* and (3) *barishi* have been already explained. The only remaining classes are (1) *khatili* land in the beds of the Gambhir, Banganga, etc., which after the floods have passed away is covered with a thin layer of ash manure and sown with wheat, barley, melons, or vegetables, and irrigated by hand from *chokas* or holes dug in the sand, which rapidly fill with water; and (2) *barani*, which is further sub-divided into (a) ordinary *barani*, and (b) *bhur*, the inferior sandy soil found at the foot of the hills, on the high uplands, and along the banks of *nalas*. The area of *bhur* is not however considerable, being 98,409 *bighas*, or less than one-tenth of the total unirrigated area. *Bhur* is most common in the hilly tahsils of Weir and Biyana, and the quality is particularly poor in the latter tahsil, where it grows only the poorest *kharif* crops—*moth*, *musina*, *chawila*, and inferior *bajra*.

In the southern portion of Weir and in the Nahera and Dang tracts of Biyana, the *barani* land is also rather light, the *humus* being of little depth. Throughout the rest of the State it is generally level and uniform in quality, suitable for the growth of all the ordinary *kharif* crops, and if rains are favourable, for *rabi* crops as well. The rate on *barani* land varies from 12 annas to 1 rupee per *bigha*, or Re. 1-11-0 to Rs. 2-8-0 per acre. The rate on *bhur* is

8 annas per *bigha* in Gopalgarh (Nagar), Pahari, Kumher, Akheygarh, Bharatpur, Biyana, Weir; 10 annas in Kama, Dig, Nagar, Oochain; and 13 annas in Rupbas, where the sandy deposits along the banks of the Gambhir produce wonderful crops of *til* and *bajra*.

30. Excepting Jhallawar and isolated parganas of Alwar and Jaipur, the soil of Bharatpur, as a whole, is probably superior to that of any other State in Rajputana. It has also the advantage of a good rainfall, and of having over two-fifths of the area protected by wells or benefited by the annual inundations. The wild cattle nuisance, which for many years was a fatal bar to all agricultural development in Bharatpur and Kumher, as well as parts of Dig, Oochain, and Akheygarh (see para. 7 of Report on Central Tahsils), has now been removed, and the Banganga inundations have been effectually brought under control. The new settlement has defined and secured the rights of the agriculturists in the land, has freed them from many onerous obligations, and given them a reasonable and fairly distributed assessment. The bounteous harvests of the present year have almost obliterated the traces of the recent years of scarcity and hardship, and there is now every reason to hope that an era of agricultural improvement has begun, and that the great latent resources of the State will be rapidly developed.

31. The natural divisions of each tahsil have been fully described in the assessment reports. They might have been made the basis of a division into assessment circles, but this would involve an increase in statistical work, with which neither my establishment nor myself could cope. Had I the time or the local knowledge to form such circles as a preliminary measure, no doubt it would have been helpful in the subsequent proceedings. It is however less important here than elsewhere owing to the small size of tahsils, and the fact that the sub-classifications of *chali*, *sairaba*, and *barani* now made for the first time, take account of the most salient local distinctions. As I had to assess eight tahsils a year—four in each State—and am convinced that careful local inspection of each estate is more useful for assessment purposes than the most elaborate working out of theoretical rates, I thought it better to treat each tahsil as a single assessment circle, frame soil rates for the tahsil as a whole as a rough guide to assessment, and to depart freely from these rates where local circumstances require it, using my own local knowledge and that of my assistants as a check and correction on the rate estimates.

32. To complete the account of the agriculture in the preceding paragraphs, I annex a table showing for the present year (1900-1901) the relative areas of the different crops for each of the present ten tahsils and for the whole State:—

TAHSIL.	PERCENTAGE OF KHARIF CROPS.										PERCENTAGE OF RABI CROPS.											
	Ootton.	Bajra.	Jawar.	Moth Masina.	Gawar charri.	Til.	Rice.	Cano.	Others.	Total Kharif.	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Bejar (barley and gram).	Goehni (wheat and gram).	Gojra (wheat and barley).	Oil-seeds.	Tobacco.	Zira.	Others.	Total Rabi.	Dolsli.
Pahari ...	7	20	20	3	6	6	...	...	1	63	4	5	14	5	3	1	4	...	...	1	37	21
Kama ...	6	27	15	4	6	2	...	...	1	61	3	6	22	1	5	...	2	...	...	...	39	21
Dig ...	4	15	26	8	4	4	...	...	1	61	4	8	22	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	39	7
Kumher ...	2	11	29	12	4	4	...	...	...	62	7	10	17	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	38	3
Akheygarh ...	3	25	20	17	4	4	...	...	1	74	5	11	6	...	...	1	1	...	1	26	4	
Nagar ...	4	20	19	6	6	6	...	...	1	62	5	7	15	3	4	...	3	...	...	1	38	13
Bharatpur...	1	12	24	11	3	3	...	...	1	55	10	7	15	4	3	2	3	...	...	1	45	3
Rupbas ...	4	36	6	7	5	8	...	...	2	68	5	9	5	4	1	2	4	...	1	1	32	14
Biyana ...	8	33	8	13	4	3	...	...	1	70	6	9	5	3	...	1	1	...	4	1	30	17
Weir ...	8	30	13	13	3	3	...	...	1	71	4	11	8	1	1	1	...	...	2	1	29	8
Total of State	5	23	18	9.5	4.5	4.5	...	...	2.5	65	5	8.5	12.5	3	1.5	.5	2.5	.25	1	.75	35	10

Thus no less than 10 per cent. of the cultivated area was double-cropped; and of the total crop area, 65 per cent. consisted of *kharif* and 35 per cent. of *rabi* crops, or, roughly, two-thirds and one-third.

In the *kharif* the only irrigated crop of any importance is cotton. It comes to 5 per cent. of the whole. In the central tahsils it is little grown, as it does not thrive on brackish or bitter wells, but in Weir and Biyana it is a most valuable crop and that on which the Zamindars chiefly rely for the *kharif* revenue. In Pahari, Nagar, and Rupbas it is also an important crop, but there it is largely grown on *barani* and *sairaba* lands.

A small area of rice is grown on the Ruparel flooded land in Nagar and Pahari, and about 300 *bighas* of sugar-cane are raised, chiefly in Rupbas and Biyana. The latter crop appears to have been very extensively grown at one time in the southern tahsils, and efforts, which the State might encourage, are now being made to revive its cultivation. There should be an excellent opportunity for extending its cultivation on the Bareta *band*, and with that object we purposely fixed the water-rate low, Rs. 2-8 per *bigha*.

The chief *kharif* food crops are *jawar* (18 per cent.) and *bajra* (23 per cent.). The two combined cover over two-fifths of the crop area of the year. They are usually grown on *barani* land, though some of the *bajra* is watered from wells and followed by a spring crop, while *jawar* is also grown on *sairaba* lands. *gawar-chari* (4.5 per cent.) is grown entirely as fodder for the cattle.

The area under *til* is also 4.5 per cent. This is a popular and valuable crop, as it always commands a good price. The area is largest in Rupbas, where it is found at its best in the sandy land along the Banganga and Gambhir, but the area is also large in Pahari and Nagar. The miscellaneous *kharif* crops come to 2.5 per cent. of the total, and include maize (grown on the wells in Biyana and Weir), flax, and other minor crops, irrigated and unirrigated.

Of the *rabi* crops, wheat (5 per cent.) and barley (8.5 per cent.), *zira* and tobacco (1.25 per cent.), are generally grown alone on well lands; while gram (12.5 per cent.), wheat and gram (1.5 per cent.), and barley and gram (3 per cent.) are generally grown on *sairaba* or on the best *barani*. Oil-seeds (2.5 per cent.) are generally grown on good *barani* land, or mixed with wheat and barley on well lands. The area under miscellaneous *rabi* crops—carrots and other vegetables, *mehndi* (*henna*), *pan* (betel-nut), and opium—is very small, and is shown by tahsils in the assessment reports. On the whole, the area under the superior crops—sugar-cane, rice, opium, etc.—is very small, the Bharatpur Jats, Meos, and Gujars preferring moderate returns from ordinary crops to the *petite culture* system of husbandry. The agriculture is however on the whole good of its kind, as the State is particularly fortunate—for Rajputana—in that the land is held chiefly by an industrious and enterprising agricultural population.

33. Communications have already been noticed. In the northern and central tahsils they are, on the whole, very good. Akheygarh, Kumher, and Bharatpur have stations at Nadbai, Heylak, and Bharatpur respectively on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway; while Kumher, Kama, and Dig are connected with the railway at Bharatpur and Matta by an excellent metalled road. Pahari and Nagar, though rather remote, have good communications with Dig, which is an important trade centre.

The three southern tahsils, or at least those portions of them which lie south of the Banganga, are not so fortunate, and during the rains cart-traffic from this side is suspended. There is however a good metalled road from Bharatpur to Biyana *via* Oochain, from which unmetalled or fair-weather roads run to the Bareta and Paharpur quarries on the east, and to Weir and Blusawar on the west. The Agra-Jaipur road also runs through the Weir tahsil. If the project, which, I believe, has been sanctioned, of bringing the railway from the south through Karaoli and Biyana to connect with the Rajputana-Malwa Railway at Bharatpur, is carried out, much will be done to open up these tahsils and to develop the stone traffic from the Paharpur and other quarries.

34. The fiscal policy of the State till recently had the same paralysing effect on trade that its revenue policy had on agriculture. It was only in 1884 that transit duties were abolished. Internal customs duties, which were levied on nearly all transactions and were a source of constant annoyance and oppression to the people, were only abolished on 1st June 1896. They brought in a revenue of about Rs. 82,000. Import and export duties on live-stock, agricultural produce of all kinds, and all articles of ordinary consumption are still in force. The rates (which are quoted in para. 97 of my Assessment Report on the Northern Tahsils) were revised and raised considerably in 1896 to compensate for the loss sustained by the abolition of the internal duties. The income is from Rs. 2,40,000 to Rs. 2,75,000 a year; the expenditure about Rs. 30,000. In Alwar—the circumstances of which are very similar to those of Bharatpur—all import and export duties were abolished by His Highness the late Maharaja in 1879. The relief to the people has been immense, and the State has increased in prosperity. I strongly recommend that immediately the Bharatpur finances allow of it, the present oppressive duties be abolished. Where the land-tax and cesses already exceed Rs. 4 per head of total population, there is not that justification for retaining these extra imposts which might be pleaded on behalf of backward (agriculturally) and poor States like Jodhpur, Bikanair, and Oodaipur, which derive comparatively little income from their lands.

35. The State realises in addition to the revenue a cess of Rs. 3-2-0 per cent. on the *jama*—actual or nominal—of all lands *khalsa* and revenue-free for the payment of Patwaris. This forms a separate fund, and as will hereafter appear is sufficient not only to meet the pay of the reorganised Patwari staff, but also of the whole Kanungo establishment, and of survey equipment, stationery, etc. Another cess of Rs. 4-11-0 per cent., or 3 pice per rupee—in *masi* villages the rate is usually 2 per cent.—is levied under the name of local rate, to meet the cost of schools, roads, and dispensaries. On the present *jama* the allotment under each head should come to about Rs. 34,000.

In last year's budget the grant for education was only Rs. 26,000, while that for the army was over 6 lakhs. Education is now at a very low ebb, and it is only fair to the people who pay this cess that they should receive the full equivalent of it in the facilities given for at least primary education. As regards medical relief there is no reason to complain. There are dispensaries at the head-quarters of each tahsil, and in fact two in Pahari and Weir; while the new hospital at Bharatpur is perhaps the finest in Rajputana. The unhealthy climate of much of the State renders the need for efficient medical relief all the greater, and the recent revival of the office of Agency Surgeon will no doubt lead to an improvement in the hitherto slack and defective medical and sanitary administration. One of the most useful of recent reforms has been the introduction of British Post Offices. There is at least one such Post Office in each tahsil, and some tahsils have several.

CHAPTER II.

POLITICAL AND REVENUE HISTORY.

36. In this chapter I have endeavoured to bring together, so as to give a connected account for the State as a whole, the historical facts already mentioned in the assessment reports. The sources of information are the Gazetteers of Rajputana and of the Agra and Mattra districts, Captain Walters' brief historical sketch of Bharatpur, Babu Jawala Sahai's "History of Bharatpur" (1898 edition), and Aitchison's Treaties (1892 edition). These have been supplemented by information acquired locally from oral and written sources.

37. The early history of the southern portion of this tract centres round Biyana, which nature and art combined to form into one of the most famous strongholds in India even in the days of Hindu dominion. During the invasion of Mahmud of Ghazni in the 11th century, a Jadu Rajput, Bijey Pal, ruled in Biyana, and his conduct in endeavouring to

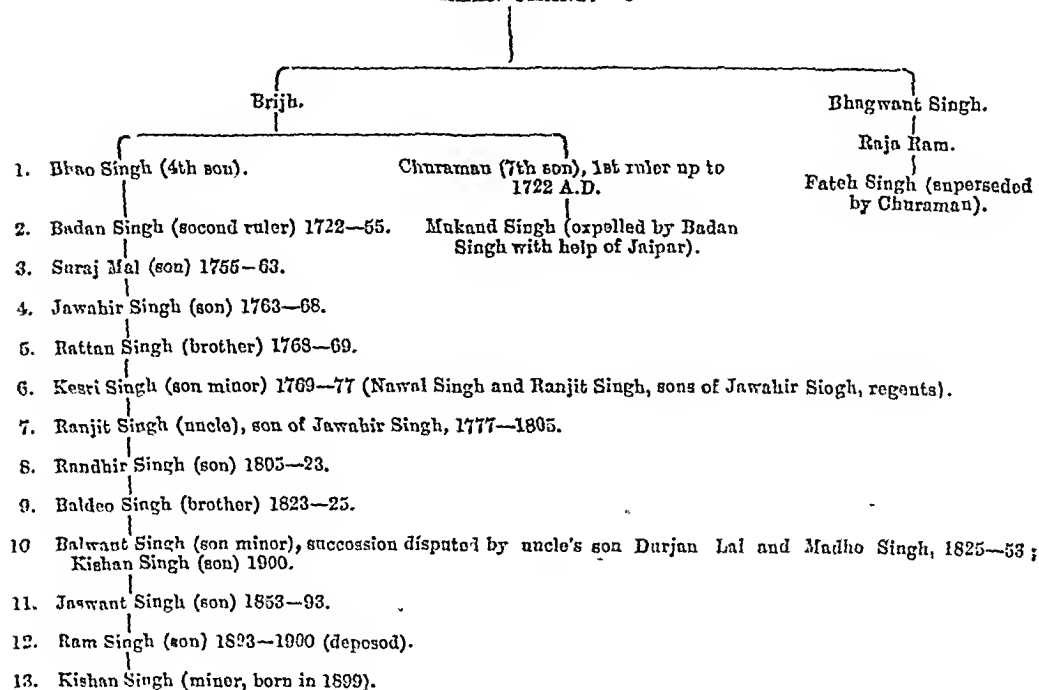
forcibly secure a Mohammedan girl is said to have led to Biyana being stormed and captured in 1031 A.D. by Mahsud Salar, nephew of the Sultan. Bijey Pal was killed in battle, but the fort is said to have been soon after recovered by the Rajputs. At all events it was again stormed successfully by the famous Abu Bakar Kandhari in A.D. 1047. Abu Bakar was killed fighting, and his tomb is still pointed out close to Biyana. Thenceforward Biyana seems to have been held by whatever dynasty ruled in Delhi. At the end of the fifteenth century the local Governor rebelled against Secunder Lodi, who after capturing Biyana founded a new city at Secundra, a few miles to the south, the ruins of which are still to be seen. This city was situated, like Biyana, at the foot of the hills and covered the entrance to the mighty fort or series of forts which crown the crests, and have even now a circumference of 7 miles. Successive conquerors, Hindu and Musalman, had devoted their energies to the strengthening of this splendid natural stronghold, and it is now a curious medley of Hindu and Mahomedan relics which would well repay antiquarian research.

Babar writing in 1526 describes Biyana as one of the most famous forts in India. The combined Rajput forces, advancing northwards to encounter the Moghul invaders expelled the garrison left by Babar and took possession of the fort, and it was 20 miles to the north-east at Khanwa in Rupbas that Babar put a seal to his conquests and hopelessly shattered the last attempt of the great Rajput confederacy to recover the empire of Hindustan by a complete victory over the Rajput forces under Raja Sanga of Meywar. This victory is known commonly as that of Fatehpur Sikri, which place is however about 10 miles distant from the battle-field. His son Humayun wrested the fort of Biyana from the Lodis in 1535, and from that date to the rise of the Jat power it was held by the Moghuls.

38. The territory now included in the north of the Bharatpur State belonged originally to the domain of the Tanwar Rajputs, Early history of the Mewar. who reigned at old Delhi or Indraprastha, and passed from them with their empire into the possession of the Pathan and Moghul Empires of Delhi. Under Moghul rule the tract was generally attached to the *Subah* or province of Agra, but the Meo tahsils—Gopalgarh, Nagar, Pahari, and Kama—were with the rest of the turbulent Mewar country often placed under the charge of a special officer (Faujdar), and at times were under the administration of the Maharaja of Jaipur, one of the great feudatories of the Empire.

39. The table annexed shows the descent of the ruling family from their ancestor Brijh and the succession up to date:—
List of rulers with dates.

KHAN CHAND.



40. The rulers of Bharatpur claim to have been originally Jadu Rajputs, the descendants of Krishna. Sue, a Jadu Rajput, the 78th in descent from Krishna, is said to have migrated from Biyana to the Dig jungles and founded the village of Sinsini, named after Sinsina, the *genus loci* or tutelary deity.

Bal Chand, the fourth in descent from him, was a noted freebooter, and in one of his marauding expeditions made prisoners of a Jat of the Dagar clan and his wife from Hindaun (now in Jaipur) and brought them to his house in Sinsini. Having no children by his own wife, he took the Jat woman into his harem and had two sons by her, Bijc and Sije. These were regarded as Jats and expelled from the Rajput brotherhood. Having no *gôt* of their own they took the name of Sinsinwar, from their paternal village, and from them are descended the famous Sinsinwar Jats.

These early Jats were Ishmaelites of the jungles, whose sole occupation was plunder. The first to emerge into the light of history was Brijh, the fourth in descent from Bal Chand, who in the latter half of the seventeenth century made himself conspicuous by plundering the baggage of the Imperial forces on their way to and from the Deccan, and finally captured the Moghul fort of Auw, a few miles south of Dig. This was however soon recaptured, and an Imperial force was sent against the Jat stronghold of Sinsini, which was captured at the beginning of the eighteenth century after a bloody resistance. Brijh himself and his fourth son Bhao Singh, ancestor of the ruling family, were killed in the attack, but the Jats proudly assert that five kings' sons were slain with him in the gateway.

Prior to this another branch of the family in the person of Raja Ram, a nephew of Brijh, had established itself in Thun and become master of forty villages. Raja Ram was summoned to Delhi to do homage to the Emperor. According to local tradition he assembled his tribesmen, and agreed that they should share in whatever fortune should bring him. He was well received in Delhi, and in return for his promise to refrain from plundering is said to have been given the *gaddi* of Mattra and a grant of 575 villages. On his return he distributed these villages as *inams* among his followers on condition of military service. This was the origin of the present *inam* grants which are so prominent a feature of the Bharatpur tenures. Raja Ram soon returned to his predatory habits, and was soon afterwards killed in a conflict with the Imperial forces. His son Fatteli Singh had not the capacity required for a leader of the Jats. They therefore set him aside in favour of the famous Churaman, the seventh son of Brijh.

41. Churaman now became the acknowledged leader of the Jats in Thun and Sinsini. He built forts in both places, and possessed himself of Kumher, Dig, and other places of importance. At this time another Jat named Rustam had established himself at Bharatpur, built a fort, and begun marauding expeditions after the traditional Jat style. Churaman united his forces with those of Khem Karan, the son of Rustam, and the allied bands were now so strong that they were able to attack the Imperial garrisons and cut off the communications of the capital with Ajmir, Gwalior, and Agra. So redoubtable had the Jats now become that the Emperor Farukh Siyar in 1714 endeavoured to conciliate them.

42. To Churaman he gave the title of Bahadur Khan with a *jaqir* of the five parganas of Nagar, Katumbar (now in Alwar), Nadbai (in Akheygarh), Heylak (in Bhartapur), and Auw (in Dig; while Khem Karan received the 5 parganas of Rupbas, Bharatpur, Ikran (in Bharatpur), Mala, and Baroli (Agra). Upon this they ceased plundering for a time, but hereditary inclinations were too strong and opportunities too tempting for the Jats to adopt a life of peace. The Russians have a proverb, "However you may pamper a wolf, his eye is always on the forest".

They soon resumed their successful career of plunder under Churaman, and in 1718 the Raja of Jaipur was despatched with a strong force to overcome him. Thun and Sinsini were invested, but the Jats showed the same valour in defending their mud-walls which won for them so much celebrity a century

later, and after several unsuccessful assaults the Raja raised the siege and returned to Jaipur.

According to Tod and Elphinstone (page 689) the Jats had been reduced to extremities, and Thun was about to capitulate when the Sayad Wazirs of the Empire, who were at the head of a faction opposed to the Jaipur Raja, made peace direct with the Jat Envoy in Delhi, and the Raja thereupon retired in disgust. This is corroborated by the fact that a year later—in 1720—Churaman supported the Wazirs against the Emperor Muhammad Shah, for which he received a reward of 200,000 gold *mohurs*, and in return he murdered the Governor of Agra, who was hostile to the Wazirs.

43. To avenge this outrage Raja Jai Singh of Jaipur was appointed Governor of Agra and prepared to attack Churaman in overwhelming force. Meantime Churaman had quarrelled with his son Mohkam Singh. On returning from the chase one day he found the fort of Thun shut against him, and in despair the "Cineinnatus of the Jats" took poison by swallowing a diamond (1722 A.D.)

His son Mohkam Singh was a profligate. His first step was to imprison Badan Singh, the son of Bhao Singh, whom he feared as a rival. The Jats insisted on the release of Badan Singh, who fled to the Imperial camp, and invited Jai Singh (with the consent of the great body of the Jats, it is said,) to attack Thun and expel Mohkam Singh. Aided by a strong faction among the Jats, Jai Singh captured Thun after a six months' siege, and Mohkam Singh fled for his life. He had previously laid a mine of gunpowder to blow up the fort and his assailants when they should enter it, but Badan Singh forewarned the Jaipur Raja of the stratagem and thus saved him from annihilation.

44. For his services he was proclaimed Raja of Dig, on condition of paying tribute to Delhi, in 1722, which year therefore marks the recognition of Bharatpur as a separate State. He made Dig his capital, built the older palace there, erected the forts and palaces of Kumber and Weir, and extended his territory to the present southern boundary of the State. He had twenty-six sons, of whom the eldest, Suraj Mal, became *de facto* ruler in his father's lifetime. Sixteen sons left issue, and these are the founders of the *solah kotris* or sixteen houses that still hold *jagirs* and *inams* dating back to the reign of Badan Singh. They are known as Thakurs, while other Jats of the Sinsinwar *got* are styled Faujdars.

45. The ^{Death of Churaman and defeat of the Jats} ~~tab~~ after his accession appears to have left affairs of State to his capable and successful son Suraj Mal, who raised the Jat power to its zenith. In 1733 he captured the fort of Bharatpur from Khem Karan, the rival Jat Chief, and laid the foundation of the present capital by building the present fort and moat.

His subsequent career is part of the history of Hindustan. In 1753 he sacked Delhi; in 1754 he successfully repelled the combined attack of the Imperial forces, aided by Holkar and Jaipur, from Dig and Bharatpur; and again signally defeated Holkar at Kumber, where Holkar's son was slain. The dispute as to the succession to the Jaipur throne was decided in favour of Isri Singh by the influence of Suraj Mal's sword.

From the death of Badan Singh in 1755, Suraj Mal ruled as Maharaja in his own right till his death in 1763, and at this period was probably at the head of the most formidable force in India. His crowning and most brilliant achievement was the capture of Agra in 1761, (which the Jats held till 1774,) together with the sovereignty of the Agra and Mattra districts, most of the present Alwar State, and parts of Gurgaon and Rohtak. Suraj Mal met his death in 1763 at the hands of a squadron of the Imperial forces while making a foolhardy attempt to hunt in the Imperial domains.

46. His son and successor, Jawahir Singh, possessed the valour without the capacity of his father. In 1764, with the help of the Sikhs from the Punjab, he plundered Delhi and added Jhajjar, Bahadurgarh, and Rewari, with a considerable part of the present Gurgaon and Rohtak Districts, to the Jat possessions. During his short reign he lived chiefly in the Agra palace, where it was his whim to sit on the black marble

throne of Jahangir, and here he was murdered at the instigation of the Raja of Jaipur in 1768.

That the power of the Jats, though their dominions were now at their widest, had passed its zenith under Jawahir Singh, appears from the evidence of Dow, a contemporary historian—see page 620, Agra Gazetteer—who writes :—

“The city of Agra and a very considerable tract of the country round it, extending along the Jamna from 40 *koses* below the city to within five of Dehli, and stretching back to Gwalior, are in the hands of a Hindu nation called the Jats. Jawahir Singh is a very weak prince. The revenue does not exceed two crores; his dominions, like the rest of India, being harassed by the Mahrattas.”

47. From the death of Jawahir Singh the power of the Jats began to decay and their dominions to contract. The process was hastened by family dissensions, the increasing influence of the Mahrattas on the politics of Hindustan, and the rise of a powerful rival in the Chief of the newborn Rajput State of Alwar, to whom the Alwar fort was surrendered by the Bharatpur forces in 1775, and who by the end of the century succeeded in expelling the Jats from the northern parganas of Alwar.

Decline of the Jat power.

In 1771 the Mahrattas expelled the Jats from all their conquests east of the Jamna. In 1774 Najaf Khan recaptured Agra for the Emperor. The contest for the Regency between Nawal Singh and Ranjit Singh during the minority of Kesri Singh (1769—77) gave the Imperial Wazir, who espoused the cause of the latter, an opportunity for re-establishing Moghul supremacy. By the defeat of Nawal Singh at Barsana and the capture of Dig in 1775 he broke the power of the Jats and re-annexed all their territory, except the Bharatpur pargana which was left to Kesri Singh, to the Moghul dominions. The fortunes of the Jats, which were now at their lowest ebb, were partially restored by the Rani Kishori, the widow of the great Suraj Mal. Her personal appeal to Najaf Khan obtained the restoration to Ranjit Singh in 1777 of 10 out of the 14 (now reduced to 10) parganas which now form the State. To this period is attributed the origin of the *chauth* form of tenure in several Jat estates. For some years Ranjit Singh held these 11 parganas under the protection of the Minister Najaf Khan. The latter died in 1782, and his successor, Mirza Shaffi, confiscated the Jat possessions. Mirza Shaffi was murdered at Dig in 1783 with the connivance of Ranjit Singh, who took advantage of the dissensions between the Moghuls to recover his lost territory. This brought him into collision with Madho Rao Sindhia. The latter at this time, though posing as the Deputy of his nominal master the Peshwa, who in turn claimed to be merely the chief noble of the Empire, was rapidly becoming the master of Hindustan.

48. On behalf of the Emperor, Sindhia in 1784 again forfeited Ranjit Singh's possessions, but on the petition of Rani Kishori 11 parganas, including Dig, yielding a revenue of 10 lakhs per annum, were again restored in 1785. Thenceforward Ranjit Singh attached himself faithfully to the cause of Sindhia and loyally co-operated with Sindhia's French Generals, DeBoigne and Perron. Perron appears to have succeeded to the command of Sindhia's Hindustan army in 1795, and as Sindhia's representative at Dehli and Agra exercised an unlimited influence over the Emperor. He rewarded Ranjit Singh's services at this time by the grant of 3 parganas valued at 4 lakhs per annum, thus making up the Bharatpur State to 14 parganas. This constitutes its present extent, though the number of parganas has now been reduced to 10. The present boundaries were therefore stereotyped at the close of the last century.

Formation of the State according to its present limits.

49. The early years of the present century were marked by the final struggles of the Mahrattas and the British for the supremacy of India. On 29th August 1803, Sindhia's forces under Perron were defeated at Aligarh by Lord Lake. On the 14th September Lake occupied Dehli, and the French generals Perron and Bourguien surrendered. Lake then returned to the siege of Agra, which was begun on 7th October. Ranjit Singh on 29th September 1803 concluded an offensive and defensive

Alliance with the British and grant of 5 parganas.

alliance with the British, and on 4th October joined the British camp at Agra with 5,000 horse. This force contributed towards the fall of Agra, and Ranjit Singh was rewarded by the grant of 5 parganas, viz.:—

Katambar,	} now in Alwar.
Kishangarh,	
Rewari,	now in Gurgaon.
Gokal,	} now in Mattra.
Sahar,	

The Bharatpur contingent again took part in the battle of Laswari in Alwar on 1st November 1803, when the remnants of Sindhia's army were annihilated by Lord Lake.

50. In 1804 war broke out between the British and Jaswant Rao Holkar, to whom Ranjit Singh, in defiance of his engagements, and unfortunately for himself and his State, allied himself. Holkar, when defeated by Lord Lake in Farrukhabad on 17th November, fled across the Jamna and took refuge in Dig with his Jat allies. Lake at once besieged the city. On the 24th December the Mahrattas and Jats evacuated Dig and fell back on Bharatpur. The first siege of Bharatpur, from 3rd January to 22nd February 1805, is matter of history. It was interrupted by Ranjit Singh's suing for peace, which was concluded on 17th April 1805. By the new treaty of that date the five parganas granted to Ranjit Singh in October 1803 were resumed, and he was made to pay an indemnity of 20 lakhs, but was confirmed in the possession of the remaining 14 parganas constituting the present State (Aitchison's Treaties, Volume III, pages 246—248).

51. Ranjit Singh died in December 1805, and was succeeded by his son Randhir Singh. On the death of the latter in 1823, his brother Baldeo Singh succeeded. He died in 1825, leaving a minor son, Balwant Singh, whose right to succeed was acknowledged by the British Government, but was contested by his uncle's sons, Madho Singh and Durjan Sal. The latter seized the throne and imprisoned Balwant Singh. A British force under Lord Combermere marched against Bharatpur on behalf of the rightful heir. After a determined resistance the city was taken by storm on 18th January 1826. Durjan Sal was made prisoner and despatched to Allahabad (his descendants now reside at Benares); Balwant Singh was formally recognised as Maharaja under the regency of his mother and the superintendence of a British Political Agent during the minority; the charges of the war—25½ lakhs—were made payable by the Bharatpur State, and the prize money from the plunder of the city, amounting to £481,100, was distributed among the victorious army. In 1835, on Balwant Singh's coming of age, the Agency was withdrawn, and the detachment of British troops stationed in Bharatpur recalled.

The character of Balwant Singh's reign and the subsequent revenue history of the State have been described in the Introduction.

Subsequent important events.

52. The only subsequent important political events calling for mention are—

- (1) The re-establishment of the Agency in 1853 on the death of Maharaja Balwant Singh.
- (2) The outbreak of the mutiny in 1857. The Darbar responded promptly to the call for aid, and its loyalty throughout was unswerving. Captain Nixon took the command of the State forces sent towards Mattra to prevent any incursion of the mutineers from Dehli or Meerut and co-operate with the British forces. He was joined by a force of 2,500 men from Alwar, but at Hodal in Gurgaon his force refused to attack the rebels from Mattra, and turned their arms against their British officers and the loyal (Rajput) portion of the Alwar Contingent and joined in the plunder of Kosi. Captain Nixon had to fly for his life, and towards the end of May joined the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces at Agra. He was then appointed to succeed Major Morrison as

Political Agent, but the latter remained at his post at Bharatpur till 9th July, when, as the local Chiefs could no longer be responsible for his safety, he repaired to Agra. On 18th October 1857 Captain Nixon returned to Bharatpur as Political Agent. The Agent to the Governor-General in his mutiny report writes that though

“the Darbar had scarcely a soldier on whom reliance could be placed, and could with difficulty enforce obedience at home, no outrages have been committed in the districts, nor has the name of any Jat *Sardar* been implicated in any way in the insurrection against British rule.”

The Gujars and some of the Meo villages—as in Alwar and neighbouring British provinces—gave trouble by their rebellious and predatory habits. A special British force had to be placed on the Khairagarh border to guard against the incursions of the Bharatpur Gujars, while the Meos of the northern parganas joined their brethren in Gurgaon in plundering Firozpur, Nuh, and other towns.

- (3) The cession of the land required for the Rajputana-Malwa Railway free of cost in 1865 and the opening of the line in 1874.
- (4) The installation of Maharaja Jaswant Singh in 1869.
- (5) The extradition treaty of 1868 for the mutual surrender of prisoners charged with certain offences and the agreement modifying it in 1887.
- (6) The salt agreement of 1879 prohibiting the manufacture of salt in Bharatpur on payment of Rs. 2,26,000 as compensation to persons engaged in the trade, and of an annual grant of Rs. 1,50,000, together with one thousand *mans* of salt, to the State.
- (7) The abolition of all transit duties, except those on opium, liquor, and intoxicating drugs, in 1884.
- (8) The transfer from Alwar to Bharatpur in 1885 of five estates, of which four are now in Gopalgarh and one in Akheygarh, *viz.*, Pipal Khara, Maliki, Nakatpur, Bakhshuka, Thalchana, in exchange for the following five villages now in tahsil Katumbar, Alwar State—Khara, Lalke, Sita Ram ka Nangla, Mian Khara, Garo.
- (9) The death of Maharaja Jaswant Singh in 1893 and the succession of his son, Maharaja Ram Singh, whose powers were withdrawn in 1895.
- (10) The abolition of internal customs in 1896.
- (11) The birth of a son to Maharaja Ram Singh in 1899.
- (12) The deposition of Maharaja Ram Singh and the succession of his infant son, Maharaja Kishan Singh, in August 1900.

Having briefly referred to the political history of the State, the fiscal history may now be considered.

53. The origin of the *inam* and *chauth* tenures has been already referred to. The *inams* were feudal grants of estates made by the earlier rulers—the alleged grant of the Mattri *gaddi* with 575 villages by the Emperor of Delhi to Raja Ram is probably a fiction invented to give a more legal origin to the grants—to their brothers in arms as a reward for past or a guarantee for future military services. These services were defined in each case as so many guns (*banduks*), *i.e.*, so many matchlock-men, and the area of land represented by one gun varies from 25 to 150 *bighas*. As the State expanded and more fighting-men were required, so did these grants. The original grantees in their turn distributed among their kinsmen the grant and the obligation, and this accounts for the fact that shares in the estate are measured by the number of guns or the fraction of a gun that the *inam* or *chauth* holder is bound to supply. The *chauth* villages now paying one-fourth of the rental were originally *inam* or revenue-free. The tradition as to their origin is that when Najaf Khan seized Dig (which he held for the Moghuls for several years) and Kumher in 1774, the *Inamis* who flocked round the standard

of the Maharaja Ranjit Singh at Bharatpur, rather than serve the Moghuls, were on the rendition of the 11 parganas by Najaf Khan restored to their full former privileges. On the other hand, those Inamis who accepted Moghul dominion were made by Najaf Khan to pay one-fourth as the condition of holding their lands. When the parganas were restored they petitioned to be allowed to hold in full *inam* as before, but the Rani Kishori maintained the contribution of one-fourth, as well as the full obligation for military service. This liability for the 26 *chauth* villages originally amounted to 331 guns, of which, owing to death, desertion or absence, 37 $\frac{1}{4}$ have been resumed and 293 $\frac{1}{4}$ are still upheld. The commutation or penalty for absence appears to have been introduced in the reign of Jawahir Singh. When he made his famous raid on Dehli, those Inamis who refused or were unable to join him were made to pay a penalty of Rs. 5 per month per gun, this being the ordinary pay of a sepoy at the time, to enable substitutes to be entertained. This is said to have been the recognised rate of commutation till the time of the late Maharaja, who at the very beginning of his reign endeavoured to make *inam* and *chauth* holders liable for *patwar* and other cesses, and to overcome their opposition reduced the penalty for absence to one rupee per gun per month.

The effect of resumptions and efflux of time has been gradually to convert the nominal tenure according to shares in guns into an actual tenure by possession. Though these *inam* and *chauth* villages are nominally joint and undivided, separate possession has long been recognised, and frequently, in fact generally, does not agree with shares. In *inam* and *chauth* estates the owner of one gun will be found in possession of 30 *bighas*, of another gun in possession of 50; and though the liability of both is nominally the same, the *chauth jama* assessed is paid and resumptions made according to possession. Shares are however generally recognised in the *shamilat*. Most estates similarly pay the penalty for absence (*ghair hazri*) according to possession with the land revenue; only a few still pay the revenue and penalty according to shares.

54. The conquest of the southern tahsils by the Jats between 1720 and 1750 A.D. has been related already. The pargana of Wair in Bhusawar was granted as a separate *jagir* by Badan Singh to his second son, Partab Singh, who built the present fort and palace, beautified the place with tanks and gardens, and enjoyed the title of Raja. Maharaja Jawahir Singh suspected him of intriguing with the Moghuls and aiming at setting up a separate State. He therefore captured Weir and forfeited the *jagir*, leaving Partab Singh only 12 villages for his maintenance. These his descendants held for some generations with the title of Raja. Maharaja Balwant Singh reduced the grant to the two villages of Barha and Salempur, and on the death of Daryao Singh the late Maharaja resumed even these and gave a cash allowance instead to the present head of the family, Raja Samundar Singh, who is pursuing his studies in the Mayo College.

In the same way Thakur At Ram, younger brother of Churaman, and the ancestor through his adopted son, Sardul Singh, of the Pathera Thakurs, received a grant of Haleyna and about 200 villages in the vicinity. He built a fort at Haleyna, which still exists. When Jawahir Singh attacked Weir, the Haleyna Chief, Sawai Ram, who was in charge of the operations, was suspected of intriguing with Raja Partab Singh. His large *jagir* was at once confiscated, only a small portion being left for his maintenance. Even this has been gradually resumed, and the descendants of At Ram now hold only a small area in Haleyna as sub-proprietors.

55. These two cases are typical of the manner in which the Bharatpur Chiefs aggrandised themselves by absorbing the possessions of their feudatory Jagirdars. While the State was still growing under Badan Singh and Suraj Mal, and these Chiefs had need of the strong arm of their Jat kinsman, the services of the latter were rewarded by liberal grants of *jagirs* and *mafis* from the conquered territory. Thus grants on a large scale were given to the sixteen sons of Badan Singh, known as the

Thakurs of the Solah Kothris, who became the founders of what are still the most prominent families in the State. When the boundaries of the State ceased to expand, the Maharajas—from Jawahir Singh downwards—began to cast a jealous eye on these large grants and set themselves to resume or reduce them by various pretexts. In A.D. 1808, even after Weir and Haleyna had been resumed, no less than 43 estates (excluding Ballabgarh) in the present Bhusawar tahsil, embracing over one-third of the area, were still held in *māfi* or *jagir*. At the settlement of 1855—57 the number had been reduced to 16, while subsequent resumptions have now reduced it to seven estates covering only 5 per cent. of the area. In pursuance of the same policy the small pargana or *jagir* of Ballabgarh in Weir, which was originally granted by Jaipur about 1721 A.D. to Chaudhri Ratti Ram, the Jat *Sirdar* of Ballabgarh, and was maintained to his descendants by the Bharatpur Rajas on condition of military service was temporarily attached by the late Maharaja in 1880 in discharge of a debt. This *jagir* consists of 13 estates now assessed at Rs. 36,000. The present grantee is Faujdar Debi Singh, Member of Council, and his claim to recover the grant is still pending. Even “the brothers near the throne,” *viz.*, the Thakurs of the Solah Kothris, have suffered, the shares of those who died without leaving male heirs of the body having been resumed under the *Nath* rule.

Large *inam* grants were held also by horsemen on condition of service to the State when required. These horsemen used to band themselves together and commit organised raids and dacoities in Agra and the neighbouring States. Maharaja Balwant Singh struck at the root of the evil by enrolling the horsemen in a cavalry regiment, resuming their lands and granting cash salaries instead. These were looked on as hereditary for some generations, but most of them have now disappeared. Another method of reducing the area of *inam* was by the resumption of the *inams* of those who deserted in the famine of 1877-78, or failed to pay the miscellaneous cesses which the State levies on such lands.

56. - It has been the traditional policy of the successive Maharajas, as remarked by Sir Henry Lawrence, to reduce the status and break the power of their own tribe. Rather than “brook a brother near the throne” they prefer to surround themselves with their Gujar foster relations, who thus gradually acquired an importance quite incommensurate with their hereditary status, and in pursuance of the same policy no opportunity was lost of resuming *jagirs* and *inams*, either on the death of the holders without direct male heirs, or even in their lifetime subject to the grant of money pensions or posts in the State army. This process was carried to great lengths by the late Maharaja, but since the reorganisation of the Administration under the Political Agent in 1895, it has been stopped, and in case of Jagirdars or Inamdars dying without heirs, succession is allowed to the next of kin, if descended from the original grantee, and to adopted sons with the same limitation.

It will be understood, therefore, that the feelings of the Sinsinwar Jats to their rulers have not been over-cordial, and that they have viewed their supersession in posts of trust and emolument by the Gujar element with jealousy and dissatisfaction. Historically the Jat Jagirdars and Inamdars occupy the same position in Bharatpur as the Thakur Jagirdars in Alwar, but in actual fact their position is much inferior, as they have been gradually shorn of their powers and privileges. The result of their historical development has been to make them less energetic and successful as agriculturists than Jats are usually found to be. The traditions of fighting and plunder are still too recent for them to settle down to steady, plodding habits of industry. The system under which the State accepts attendance at the tahsils, city gates, and other public buildings in lieu of the military service which they formerly rendered, and are still bound to render in theory, encourages indolence. An improvement is however taking place, and the great majority of them now willingly pay the penalty of one rupee per month for absence, rather than give up the time which they can more profitably employ in agriculture.

57. Details of agricultural tribes by the old tahsils are given in the assessment reports. The following table summarises the figures :—

Agricultural tribes.				Northern tahsils.	Central tahsils.	Southern tahsils.	Total of State.	Percent-ages.
Tribe.								
Hindus—Jat Sinsinwars	...	...	...	46	114	33	193	14
Other Jats	...	...	...	17	107	114	238	17
Rajputs	...	...	...	27½	6	32	65½	5
Brahmins	...	...	...	9½	60	67	136½	10
Gujars	...	...	...	56½	51	145	252½	18
Ahirs	...	...	...	10	...	...	10	1
Dhakurs	...	...	...	...	...	12	12	1
Lodhas	...	...	...	...	7	9½	16½	1
Minas	...	...	...	½	...	17½	...	...
Malis and Kachis	...	...	}	39	57	9	...	...
Other Hindus and State	...	...		...		24	147	1
Total Hindus	...	...	...	206	402	463	1,071	77
Musalmans—Meos	...	...	...	256½	27	...	283½	20
Rajputs...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3	}
Khanzadas	...	...	...	2½	...	...	2½	
Sheikh, Sayads, etc.	...	...	...	...	3	12	15	1
Gaddis...	...	...	...	...	...	16	16	1
Others	...	...	...	...	4	...	4	...
Total Musalmans	...	...	...	262	34	28	324	23
Grand Total	...	...	...	468	436	491	1,395	100

So that 77 per cent. of the total number are held by Hindu agriculturists who are chiefly Sinsinwar Jats, 14 per cent., other Jats 17, Gujars 18, and Brahmins 10 per cent.; and 23 per cent. are held by Musalmans, of which Meos alone account for 20 per cent.

The two classes of Jats between them hold nearly one-third of the total number of estates—many being *inam*, *chauth* or *mafi*. They are distributed all over the State, but are strongest in the central and southern tahsils, where they form the backbone of the agricultural population. The Gujar villages are also widely distributed, but are most numerous in the southern tahsils, and especially in Biyana, where they monopolise the Nabera and Dang tracts. Brahmin villages are also common in the central and southern tahsils, and Rajputs of the Jadu and Panwar clans are sprinkled over Kama, Dig, and Rupbas. Isolated estates of Lodhas, who were originally salt-workers, are scattered over all tahsils—generally in the vicinity of the old salt-works. Minas and Kachis are fairly common in the southern tahsils. There are 12 Dhakur villages in the southern tahsils which excel all others for industry and thrift.

Of the Musalman tribes, the Meos are confined to the northern tahsils of Jagar, Pahari, and Kama, and the western portion of Dig. This tract is commonly known as the Mewat, and is generally regarded as the most fertile and

prosperous portion of the State. It has however suffered most in the recent famine, though the Meos have shown extraordinary recuperative power. Whatever their habits formerly, they now run the Jats close for industry, but their faults are love of litigation and occasional bursts of extravagance. The only other Musalman tribe worth mentioning are the Gaddis, who possess 16 villages in the southern tahsils. They are said to be converted *Khatris* from the Punjab, and though enterprising in other ways, are poor as agriculturists.

The leading characteristics of the different tribes have been described in the assessment reports. Agriculturally I class them as follows:—

Good cultivators—Abirs, Malis and Kachis, other Jats, Meos, Dhakurs, Minas.

Fair—Sinsinwar Jats, Gujars (part), Brahmins.

Bad—Lodhas, some Gujars, Rajputs, other Musalmans.

Thus over 40 per cent. of the estates are in the hands of really good, 50 per cent. of good or fair, and only 10 per cent. are held by poor agriculturists. The Gujars in the Bharatpur tahsil have hitherto been amongst the worst cultivators in the State, but this was largely due to their unfavourable environment—water-logging from the Banganga and wild cattle; and now that these checks upon industry have been removed, they are showing more disposition to make use of their opportunities. The State, on the whole, will compare favourably with any in Rajputana in the character of its agricultural population.

Revenue system under the Moghuls.

58. I now proceed to sketch, as briefly as possible, the revenue history.

In the “Ain-i-Akbari” the tract is shown as belonging to the Agra *sirkar* or district of the Agra *subah* or Province. In the following table I quote the *mahals* or sub-divisions mentioned in the “Ain-i-Akbari”, which can be identified as now included in the Bharatpur State, with the land revenue then levied from them:—

Pargana or mahal.	Land revenue, in rupees.	Tahsils in which now included.
	Rs.	
Biyana	1,77,753	Biyana.
Bhusawar	1,37,636	Bhusawar.
Khanwa	73,056	Part of Rupbas.
Kumher	18,650	Part of Kumher.
Heylak	69,717	Part of Kumher.
Pahari	30,725	Pahari.
Kama	12,613	Kama.
Mucira	15,453	Kama.
Ol (part)	1,37,738	Kumher and Bharatpur.

Unfortunately owing to the difficulty of identifying the old with the present names, the comparison cannot be made complete. So much however is evident that the three old parganas of Biyana, Bhusawar, and Khanwa, which now go to make up part of the four southern tahsils, then paid a land revenue of Rs. 3,88,445, or more than half of what the whole tract pays at present. I have shown in Chapter II of my Report on Alwar that in Akbar's time the prices of agricultural produce were only from one-fourth to one-sixth of what they are now, so that even assuming that the assessment then was only half of

what it is at present, the proportion of the produce then taken, i.e., the pitch of the assessment, was very much higher than it now is. This is also evident from the fact that Akbar's standard of assessment was one-third of the estimated produce—and his estimates were pitched very high as shown in my Alwar report—converted into cash at the current prices of the year, or the average prices of the previous ten years.

59. Prior to the Summary Settlement the State in theory took one-third of the produce—a relic of Akbar's land-revenue system—
Old revenue system under the Bharatpur rule. which was levied either by actual division of the crop (*batai*), or more frequently taken by appraisement of the yield of the standing crop (*kankut*), which was converted into a cash demand at the current rates. A further development of this led to the *theka* or contract system, by which the Zamindars or a middleman (*thekadar*) contracted to pay a fixed sum for a year or a term of years. In practice however the State took all it could exact from the people, and much of the residue was swallowed up by rapacious and corrupt officials.

For the revenue history of the State prior to the establishment of the Revenue administration, agency, I cannot do better than quote the graphic account 1825—53. given in paragraphs 3 to 6 of Sir H. Lawrence's (then Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana) report, dated 4th March 1857, to the Secretary to Government of India:—

"3. Under the late Raja Balwant Singh, the prince put up by Government after the siege of the capital in 1825-26, the territory yielded about 20 lakhs of rupees. The Raja was mild and weak, but had received little or no education, and was governed by favourites, the principal being two barbers. Five years before his death he introduced a field measurement in the territory, but used it solely and entirely as an engine of extortion. The assessment of many villages was doubled, the burdens of all more or less increased. Extra cesses, fees, and perquisites to officials had always been a dead weight on the territory. They had however sometimes enabled villagers to escape direct over-taxation. The survey removed this wretched means of escape. The consequence was that many estates were abandoned, and very many greatly impoverished. The practice of the country had been annual assessment, on a rough inspection by pargana officers, of crops as they were about to be reaped. This duty was often left to a common sepoy on two or three rupees a month. The Maharaja intended the settlement to be for ten years, but left no distinct orders on the point. Instead of a blessing, it proved to be a curse.

"4. The pargana officers had almost unrestricted power in all departments within their limits, restricted only by the fear of spies, wretchedly paid newswriters, and a haphazard visit by the Maharaja. Honest or dishonest, they were subjected to fines. Not one in ten escaped. Some paid heavy *nazarana* on appointment, several were under stoppages towards the liquidation of fines to amounts exceeding their full annual pay and allowance.

"5. The army under the Maharaja amounted to about 8,000 men. All were and are extremely well-behaved. The Maharaja had striven to break the spirit of the people, especially of his own tribe, the Jats, inhabiting the central parganas of Dig and Bharatpur. With this view he had, where able, commuted their *jagirs* and *inams* to money payments, and restricted their employment, balancing them with foreigners and Gujars."

60. The Bharatpur Agency, with Major Morrison as Political Agent, Revenue history since 1853. was established in 1853 on the death of Maharaja Balwant Singh, whose son, Maharao Raja Jaswant Singh, was then only two year's old, and the administration was conducted by the Political Agent and a Regency Council till 10th June 1869, when it was made over to the young Maharaja with certain restrictions, which were removed in 1871. From that year he reigned with full powers till his death in 1893.

The former assessments and Summary Settlements were all carried out between the year 1853 and 1893. They were as follows:—

The Summary Settlement for three years, 1855—57, was made in August 1855 by Sir H. Lawrence himself for the three tahsils of Gopalgarh, Kama, and Pahari, and by Captain Nixon, one of his assistants, for the rest of the State. The demand was based on the average collections of the previous ten years, and amounted to Rs. 14,16,000.

(a) Summary Settlement, 1855-57.

I have been unable to obtain the papers showing Captain Nixon's summary assessments, but those made by Sir H. Lawrence himself reduced the demand as follows:—

Tahsil.							Demand of 1854-55.	Summary assessment, 1855-56.
							Rs.	Rs.
Gopalgarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,89,693	2,49,454
Kama	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,10,501	94,565
Pahari	...	...	...	...	...	...	98,223	83,550
Total							4,98,417	4,27,569

Thus giving a remission of 14.75 per cent. In the report quoted, the Agent to the Governor-General writes that the reductions made by Captain Nixon were even greater, especially in the Bhusawar pargana, where the *jama* fixed by him was 10 per cent. below the average collections of the previous ten years.

For the whole State the remissions were about $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs on the previous year's demand; and though the Political Agent, who, at the instance of the revenue officials, was anxious to increase the assessment or keep the estates under *kham* management, stigmatised this as a deliberate and wanton sacrifice of $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs a year to the State, there is no doubt that the relief given was only barely adequate. Sir H. Lawrence in the report already quoted writes:—

“The excitement was very great, and I had considerable difficulty in getting many of the Zamindars to accept the leases. In vain did I endeavour to induce them to themselves distribute the *jama*; the consequence was that there were some irregularities, but, whatever they were, were not my fault, as I had all available papers for ten years past before me, and invited free opinions from the Deputy—to the Political Agent—Dewan and the village officials as well as the Zamindars themselves. The process in each case was, after careful examination of ten years' papers and other documents, to take the opinion of the several officials, including the Deputy and the Dewan, and then to ask those of a *panchayat* elected from the most intelligent Zamindars not themselves interested. The result, though not all I wished, was perhaps as satisfactory as under the circumstances could have been expected. On one point I am convinced, *viz.*, that the relief given was not too much in a single instance. I am equally confident that the revised settlements will show the necessity for a further reduction.”

To show that this is no fancy picture, I quote from Captain Nixon's Report (No. 77, dated 6th March 1858, to the Agent to the Governor-General) on the re-assessment of the pargana of Bhusawar and Akheygarh.

“On making the summary settlement I found the inhabitants of these two parganas in the most wretched state of destitution. I visited numbers of villages and collected the household property of the inhabitants to test actually what they were possessed of. Nothing can describe what their poverty then was, and I expressed my conviction that they were actually gaunt with hunger. On other occasions they pleaded that they were starving, and that the tahsil officials had taken both heaps of grain (the cultivator's share as well as the State's)—alluding to the *kharif* and *rabi* crops or, as they expressed it, ‘donon kurrar le liya,’—and this was actually admitted by the tahsil officials themselves. I have only troubled you with these remarks with a view of pointing out that the discrepancy between male and female children is not always, as we suppose, the result of infanticide; for it is a well-known fact that the people to relieve themselves from temporary pressure give their female children in marriage to those whom they consider, thirteen years, obtaining a sum of money for so doing. In my general report* (No. 98, *vi* to the extent 1857), sending up the summary settlement of this

* Not available.

remarked on the causes that induced me to red new irrigation The summary settlement was instituted by Sir H. Lawrence, and has 1 and repaired by no ordinary magnitude to the population, whom it has relieved from muus able to meet injustice.”

ances prior to the

At the same time a revenue survey of the State was undertaken by the Survey Department as a basis for a regular settlement. (b) Preparation for a regular settlement. This was successfully completed, and the village maps are even now of the greatest service. Meantime operations for the regular settlement to last during the minority were being pushed on by Captain Nixon. In the report, from which I have already quoted, Sir H. Lawrence writes that the village boundaries had already been defined, and that the field measurements for the whole State would probably be completed within three months (June 1857) simultaneously with the revenue survey, and by the end of the year a revised settlement would be effected. He continues:—

“The papers of two parganas are now ready and have been inspected by myself, as have selections by Mr. E. A. Reade, first Member of the Sadar Board, who agrees with me that they are carefully got up on correct principle, and that the error, if any, is in the rates being too high.”

The detailed instructions given by the Agent to the Governor-General to Captain Nixon for his guidance are not forthcoming, but from the correspondence I gather that he was to follow the *spirit* and not the *letter* of the rules of the North-West Provinces, allowing for local customs and even prejudices, and that a margin of 30 to 50 per cent. of the net assets, according to circumstances, was to be left to the Zamindars. Captain Nixon's report for the regular settlement of the two parganas referred to—Weir and Akheygarh—was submitted in March 1858.

In that report Captain Nixon discussed several important questions as to the rights of the Zamindars and the share of the assets to be taken by the State, and I now quote a few of the most salient points. In para. 3 he writes:—

“In accordance with the view of the late Sir H. Lawrence, I have allowed the Biswadars of Bharatpur in the new settlement a margin of profit varying from 30 to 50 per cent. Under the late Raja they only received a *hakk mukkaddami* of from 2 to 5 per cent. as their profits, and under the summary settlement which I carried out in 1855 this *hakk* was allowed. Hitherto in Bharatpur the Rajas have exercised the functions of proprietors or Zamindars; that is, they have enjoyed all the powers of the proprietor of the soil, have given whole villages in *jagir*, have measured out portions to their servitors, have cut down trees, and in every way exercised signorial and proprietary rights. But henceforth by the introduction of a regular settlement these rights will be nullified, inasmuch as it is our system in making such a settlement to confer proprietary rights on the Biswadar. After this explanation I solicit your explicit instructions as to whether you desire to confer proprietary rights on these people, for if not it would be as well after fixing the State demand to cease from prosecuting the settlement any further, and thus leave the position between Raja and Biswadar and Biswadars and cultivators for the present undefined. On the other hand, should you desire to confer proprietary rights on the Biswadars, the definition of these rights can be proceeded with as in our provinces.”

After criticising the advantages of creating a class of middlemen or proprietors who rack-rent the actual cultivators, Captain Nixon concludes with the opinion that in British provinces we legislated blindly by giving the Biswadars a proprietary interest where they previously held only a “tenant right.”

For the Bhusawar pargana—excluding Weir—Captain Nixon proposed an assessment of Rs. 90,785, a reduction of Rs. 7,500 on the summary settlement Rs. 98,290—which had been more than 10 per cent. below the average realisations of the preceding ten years—thereby proving the genuineness of his intentions to leave a considerable share of the assets to the Zamindars. He also proposed that the settlement be made for ten years in the first instance to enable the Maharaja on attaining his majority to ratify it for a further term of years should he think fit.

Had these proposals been accepted and applied to the whole State, as was the intention of Sir H. Lawrence and Captain Nixon, the prosperity of the State would have been put on a solid basis, and the The of the State would have been very different. What orders, used on Captain Nixon's proposals, the files in the Bharatpur or (d) Summary ment, 1855-57. one of his ass^t show, nor have I been able to ascertain. The people however, on the average, ain of over-assessment, invariably ask to have the *jama* fixed Rs. 14,16,000. (Sir H. Lawrence) or the “Chota Sahib” (Captain Nixon) go.

(c) Three years' settlement. As the term of the summary settlement expired in 1857-58, the data collected for the revised settlement were utilised—apparently by local agency—to make a rough three years' assessment, which came into force in 1858, and raised the demand for the State to Rs. 15,92,000—an enhancement of 12½ per cent. It should be noted that Sir H. Lawrence, who knew more of the State than any one else, had in March 1857 recorded his opinion that in the revised settlement further reductions from the demand of the summary settlement would be necessary. Nothing was settled as to the status of the Zamindars. Thus a golden opportunity of placing the revenue administration on a secure basis was lost; and though, as will be seen, one Political Agent after another took up the question of re-assessment, they dealt with it in a tentative and timorous way lest their action might hamper the Chief when he should come into power.

(d) Six years' settlement, 1862-63 to 1867-68. The term of the three years' settlement expired with the *rabi* of 1862, and the Political Agent, Lieut. Walter, writing in November 1861, proposed that a new settlement should be made for a longer period, i.e., for six years, so that its expiry might coincide with the Maharaja's coming of age in 1868. This was sanctioned by the Agent to the Governor-General, who added that—

"The summary settlement of Captain Nixon and the three years' settlement of Major Bouverie have both worked satisfactorily, and the capabilities of each village ought now to be so well known as to render the new assessment a work of comparative ease, even though it is fixed for a longer period. I beg that you will carefully make full enquiries in each village before assessing, so as to ensure an equitable and popular settlement, bearing in mind that justice to the ryot is of higher importance than an increase to the State revenue."

The re-assessment—for it was nothing more—was carried out by the Revenue officer, Ahmad Hussain, under the supervision of the Political Agent; and the result was another considerable addition, averaging 6 per cent. for the whole tract, to the State demand, which was raised from Rs. 15,92,000 to Rs. 16,80,000.

(e) Extension of the term of the six years' settlement to 1870-71. This new assessment appears to have worked well, and the demand to have been paid with reasonable fullness and punctuality. The term expired in the *rabi* of 1868. The Political Agent, writing in September 1867, proposed that a new settlement for a term of twenty years, to which the Council and the young Maharaja agreed, should be made from the autumn harvest of 1868. He negatived the suggestion to have this settlement carried out by a British Officer, as, owing to the several short-term settlements already made, the value of land was well known, and the records of former settlements, together with the papers of previous years, would form a sound basis for fixing the new demand. He therefore proposed to form an assessing committee of experienced Revenue officers to be associated with the Deputy Collector, Mr. Heatherly, who should, after examining the records of past realisations and inspecting each estate, give their opinion as to the future assessment; the final decision being passed by the Political Agent in the presence of the Maharaja.

The system proposed, though a rough and ready one, would, if worked by honest officials possessed of sound local knowledge, have probably secured a fair demand. The work was begun on these lines, but owing to the scarcity and bad harvests of 1868-69 the settlement was postponed and the demand of the six years' settlement continued till the close of the year 1870-71.

(f) Working of the above assessment during the minority. The working of the short-term assessments made during the minority have been discussed in detail in the assessment report. On the whole they were reasonably moderate and worked well. The people, secured from exaction by a firm administration, were encouraged to extend and improve cultivation. In the thirteen years, 1855—1867, no less than 1,984 new wells were constructed, *takavi* to the extent of Rs. 1,80,338 having been advanced for the purpose; many new irrigation dams (*bands*) were constructed and the old ones restored and repaired by a skilled engineer (Lieut. Home). The Zamindars were thus able to meet the increased demand without falling into arrears; the balances prior to the

ten years' settlement were infinitesimal as compared with those of following years; and even the severe scarcity of 1868-69 did not seriously affect their prosperity.

The Political Agent's direction of the administration was withdrawn partially in 1869 and completely in 1871.

The revenue of the State, which the Political Agent on assuming charge in 1854 had estimated at between 20 to 21 lakhs, for the preceding nine years (the correct figure is Rs. 20,48,000—see Annual Report for 1870-71), had risen to an average of Rs. 26,19,574 for the nine years ending September 30th 1869—an increase of nearly 6 lakhs per annum; and the young Maharaja on his accession came into possession of an expanding revenue and a substantial balance of about 9 lakhs to his credit.

The late Maharaja's first step was to add 10 per cent. all round to the existing demand with effect from the year 1871-72. The demand was thus provisionally raised from Rs. 16,90,202 to Rs. 18,58,000. An indiscriminate enhancement of this nature must inevitably have given rise to inequality and excessive taxation in certain tracts and in a great number of individual villages, but the Maharaja justified his action by quoting the opinion of Captain Powlett, Political Agent, in the Administration Report of 1871-72:—

"I have good authority for saying that the assessment can be immediately raised by 2 lakhs without oppressing the people."

The new demand was however paid almost in full for the two years, 1871-72 and 1872-73, as during the sixteen years of the minority the agricultural population had increased in prosperity, cultivation had considerably expanded, great numbers of new wells had been sunk and old ones restored with the help of State loans, and the irrigation system had been developed and extended in the hands of a competent Engineer.

Meantime the Maharaja was pushing on the work of a new assessment by means of a Committee. The result of their labours—of which there is no other record—was to enhance the demand for the whole State from Rs. 16,90,202 to Rs. 20,16,584, an increase of 20 per cent. Although the Political Agent in reporting on the new assessment justified the enhancement taken and accepted the Darbar's assurances that the settlement far from being a hard one would bear further increasing after a period of years, I have no hesitation in saying that coming after a series of enhancements, the last of which—at an all-round rate of 10 per cent.—had been made only two years before, the new settlement was grossly excessive, and even if it had not been strained to the breaking pitch by the famine of 1877-78, it must inevitably have broken down of its own weight. The pressure of over-assessment was felt all the more because no steps were taken to prepare any record-of-rights or to secure an equitable distribution of the liability. The Committee, it is true, professed to frame soil and rent-rates according to the accepted principles of assessment and to leave one-third of the assets to the Zamindars, but this was merely part of the policy of make-believe with which the Bharatpur administration successfully deceived the outer world for over twenty years. The sole object was to wring more money out of the people, while at the same time the State in return gave them no help towards developing their resources, but absolutely neglected the duty of maintaining the irrigation works, and allowed the richest parts of the State to become a desert devastated by the uncontrolled floods of the Banganga and overrun by thousands of wild cattle. For a few years the Zamindars, aided by the good seasons and the accumulations of past years, were able to meet the new demand and arrears were small, but the famine of 1877-78 and its effects caused a general cataclysm in which hundreds of estates disappeared altogether, and from which many have not yet fully recovered.

The incidents and effects of the famine have been already described in the assessment reports, viz., (1) decrease of population owing to death and emigration; (2) depopulation and desertion of estates owing to the loss of cattle and agricultural resources, the breakdown of credit, and the general panic among the people; (3) the criminal neglect of the

(g) Temporary revision of the six years' settlement.

(h) Ten years' settlement by the late Maharaja, 1873-74 to 1882-83.

(i) Famine of 1877-78.

Darbar to take any adequate measures of relief, and its ill-timed action in endeavouring to extort the full demand from a starving and impoverished people, and to compel the *banias* to sell grain at fixed prices and make advances to the Zamindars; (4) an enormous decrease in the cultivated area, and a deterioration in agriculture generally owing to want of labour and capital to work the land; (5) the beginning of the enormous arrears of land revenue which have continued almost without interruption up to the present date; (6) a general transfer of estates and holdings either compulsorily by the State for payments of arrears, etc., or voluntarily by the owners to escape revenue liability.

The land revenue has never since risen to the pitch it had attained prior to the famine year, which has permanently affected the prosperity of the State. This will be referred to in more detail further on.

The distress was further aggravated by the abolition of the salt trade tahsils of Dig, Kama, and Bharatpur involving a loss of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs per annum to the State revenue and of about 6 lakhs to the Zamindars and persons engaged in the trade. The British Government in return paid at the time Rs. 2,25,000 as compensation to the salt-workers, and pays an annual subsidy of Rs. 1,50,000 to the State. The stoppage of the manufactures however threw great numbers of people out of employment, most of whom finally emigrated from the State. The results of famine, bad harvests, and abolition of the salt trade are expressed most significantly in the census of 1881, when the population was returned as 645,540 against 743,710 in 1867—a decrease of 14 per cent. in fourteen years.

The actual realisations during its currency, omitting the figures for the Deorhi tahsil assigned for the maintenance of the ladies of the palace, were:—

(j) Collection of revenue during the ten years' settlement.

				Rs.
Total demand for the State	...	...	...	20,16,584
Deduct Deorhi or Bharatpur tahsil	...	...	...	2,32,019
		Balance	...	17,84,565
Realisations, 1873-74	...	...	...	17,86,509
1874-75	...	...	...	17,72,926
1875-76	...	...	...	17,63,690
1876-77	...	...	...	17,67,784
1877-78	...	...	...	12,50,084
1878-79	...	...	...	14,54,891
1879-80	...	...	...	16,43,069
1880-81	...	...	...	13,24,148
1881-82	...	...	...	15,43,149
1882-83	...	...	...	16,00,985
		Total	...	1,59,07,235
		Average	...	15,90,723

These figures have been obtained from a return prepared in 1898 with great care under the Dewan's orders. Those given in the Annual Administration Reports subsequent to the famine year are absolutely unreliable, as the realisations have been exaggerated, probably in order to conceal the disastrous effects of the famine on the State revenues. The arrears for the whole period averaged nearly 2 lakhs, or about 11 per cent. of the demand.

Owing to the deterioration of resources and the reduction in the cultivated area the assessment of 1873-74 had by this time become oppressive and impossible of realisation, and as the term expired in 1882-83 a further revision was undertaken. This was again entrusted to the inevitable Committee. Unfortunately they confined their operations to the Dig Nizam, embracing at the time the five tahsils of Gopalgarh, Pahari, Kama, Dig, and Kumber, which were believed to have suffered most from the famine. In these they gave liberal reductions, which reduced the total demand for the State from Rs. 20,16,584 to Rs. 18,96,000. As usual, no records-of-rights was prepared, nor is there anything on record to show the lines on which they worked.

This re-assessment came into working in 1883-84, and remained in force in some tahsils till the *rabi* of 1890, and in others till the *rabi* of 1891.

Excluding again the Bharatpur or Deorhi tahsil, the demand had now been reduced to Rs. 16,63,981, and the realisations were as follows:—

				Rs.
1883-84	...	...	...	11,68,737
1884-85	...	...	...	16,43,911
1885-86	...	...	...	16,17,258
1886-87	...	...	...	15,49,324
1887-88	...	...	...	15,29,414
1888-89	...	...	...	15,50,986
1889-90	...	...	...	15,39,024
Total				1,05,98,654
Average				15,14,093

Thus, even on the reduced *jama*, there was an annual average deficit of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, or about 9 per cent. About half of this deficit is however due to the bad harvests of 1883-84, when the revenue realised was 5 lakhs short of the demand, and even fell below the figures of the famine year 1877-78. The Political Agent in his Annual Report writes:—

“The rainfall for the year was very far below the average. The entire fall was but 14.95 inches, as against 31.93 in ordinary years. Of this small quantity 5.51 inches fell in the month of July 1883. The *khariif* crop was partially and in some places entirely lost, and this deficiency has not been made good, as was the case last year by the excellence of the *rabi* crops, which in their turn have suffered from the want of the usual cold weather rain. The *channa* or gram crop has specially failed. On the failure of the *khariif* crop being ascertained, the Darbar came forward, and by making considerable *takavi* advances to enable the people to purchase cattle and dig *kacha* wells, did much to relieve the distress and to prevent the people from quitting the territory. In some places however the people did leave in considerable numbers, though the general exodus was not on the scale that might have been expected. In seasons of scarcity the inhabitants of Bharatpur are specially pressed owing to their no longer having the manufacture of salt to turn to, on which they could in former times always depend for their livelihood. The cattle have, as is always the case, suffered greatly from the effects of the scanty rainfall. Should the rain of 1884 not be abundant and well timed, widespread suffering must be anticipated.”

And in a note to the above he adds:—

“I have to-day—5th April 1884—received a *kaifiyat* from the Bharatpur Darbar informing me that His Highness the Maharaja has remitted Rs. 13,95,350, arrears of revenue, and that it is in contemplation to make still further remissions. Many of these arrears were of very old standing.”

I am afraid the remission was entirely on paper and intended merely to make a show of liberality. I have found no trace of any such remission in these or the other tahsils, nor have any of the Revenue authorities ever referred to it.

As the term of this settlement was drawing to a close, the Maharaja decided to have a complete re-settlement and re-assessment of the State made for a term of fifteen years. As a necessary preliminary to this, a cess of 10 per cent. on the revenue was levied from the Zamindars, which brought in a sum of Rs. 1,63,674, of which about Rs. 63,600 were spent on survey, etc., and the balance of over a lakh went into the State coffers. Amins and Munsarims from British territory and adjoining States were employed to make a plane-table survey and prepare the usual records. This branch of the work was supervised by the Deputy Collector, Sheikh Asghar Ali, and Dr. Rahim Bakhsh, a palace favourite, who was subsequently put in charge of the Revenue Department. No skilled supervising agency was employed, nor were the local Patwaris and Kanungos utilised in preparing the record. The result is that, though the survey was fairly accurate and the maps have stood the test of checking by Survey Department, the record was of little value.

(?) Preparation for a fifteen years' settlement.

The records prepared were meant to be of a minute and elaborate character, but the really important papers are either wanting or incomplete. For many estates no *shajra nasb* or *khevat* to show the tenure, shares, etc., was framed. No *wajib-ul-arz* or village administration paper was drawn up; there is nothing to show how the distribution of revenue was to be made, nor is the new assessment for the whole estate or individual holdings anywhere entered. Finally, the records were never formally attested by any officer, and they can only be regarded as *chittas* or rough drafts.

The same evil fate pursued the even more important question of re-assessment. The Assessing Committee was constituted of ^(m) Method of assessment. two Tahsildars, a Munsarim, and the Court Physician—Rahim Bakhsh. A number of elaborate returns showing the previous demand, average realisations, and all the statistics as to fluctuations in cultivation, classes of soils, wells, ploughs, crops, cattle, population—in fact, all and more than all the information usually embodied in village note-books—were prepared by the Tahsildars as a basis for the re-assessment. It will hardly be credited however—did the fact not take place in Bharatpur—that in preparing those statistics the papers of the new settlement were passed over, and the statistics were based on the old records of 1857 brought up to date in a hap-hazard way by the Patwaris. Thus the Committee, following the records of 1857 and the rough and unattested entries in the annual papers, would assume that an increase of cultivation or wells had taken place in an estate, whereas the new survey might reveal a considerable decrease.

The Committee sat at Bharatpur, never visited the tahsils, and for their local knowledge as to the condition of the estates, the necessity for relief or their capacity to pay an enhanced *jama*, had to depend solely on the opinions of the Tahsildars. These, as far as left on record, are usually scanty and incomplete. Theoretical rent rates were worked out—on what basis is unknown—for villages or groups of villages, and the result arrived at by applying these to the different classes of soils as shown in the annual papers, after deducting a small and varying percentage for what is termed the *hakk zamindari*—representing the margin of profit left to the owners—was fixed as the new assessment. No attempt was made to arrange for the distribution over holdings. This was left entirely in the hands of the Tahsildars, Patwaris, and Lambardars, who might, and often did, alter it at their pleasure from year to year, or from harvest to harvest. The result is that no revenue-payer knew beforehand the amount he was responsible for, and the door was left open for excess realisations, cheating, and malversation generally. In addition to the land revenue a multitude of cesses—the chief of which are (1) local rate Rs. 4-11-0 per cent., (2) Patwari cess Rs. 3-2-0 per cent., (3) contribution for temples, orphans, stationery, Kanungo's fees—which had been in force since the Summary Settlement were also incorporated in the demand. Another item was the payment of the old arrears. These were divided into (1) arrears up to 1887-88, (2) arrears for the subsequent two years. The latter were left to be realised in lump sums at the discretion of the Tahsildars; and to liquidate the former a percentage on the new *jama*, varying from 1 to 12 per cent., was fixed, and this was to be realised with the revenue instalments. As usual, beyond the bare statements referred to the Committee left nothing on record to explain their methods,—what the State share was assumed to be, how the assets of each estate were calculated, etc., etc.,—and I can find no reference to this settlement in the Agency records. The assessment was, I believe, announced for a term of 15 years.

At the revision of 1890-91 the old demand, which had been moderate ⁽ⁿ⁾ Pitch of the assessment. in the Dig *Nizam* since the revision of 1882-83, was enhanced considerably in Gopalgarh, Kama, and Kumer, slightly in Pahari, and was reduced considerably in Dig and Nagar. In the Bharatpur *Nizam* it was reduced enormously in Bharatpur and Rupbas, enhanced slightly in Oochain and Akheygarh, considerably in Biyana, and to an enormous and most unjustifiable extent in Bhusawar.

Its working has been analysed by tahsils in the assessment reports. In ^(o) Working of the assessment. the northern tahsils it worked well up to the famine year 1899-1900, when the new demand was introduced, and there were practically no arrears except small sums in the scarcity year 1898-99. In the central tahsils there were no arrears in Nagar beyond a small sum in 1898-99, while in Kumer the arrears were 3·5 per cent., in Akheygarh 5 per cent., and in Bharatpur 13·5 per cent. of the total demand. In the southern tahsils the demand was fairly well paid in Biyana, the arrears during the period being only 3 per cent., but in Bhusawar, Oochain, and Rupbas the arrears were 6·5, 8 and 12·5, respectively, not including those of the famine year 1899-1900.

The working for the whole State will appear from the following table :—

			Rs.
Land revenue demand of 11 tahsils	...	...	17,29,726
Ditto including arrears to be realised	...	...	17,84,245
Realisations, 1890-91	...	...	16,71,818
1891-92	...	...	17,01,511
1892-93	...	...	17,24,484
1893-94	...	...	17,31,915
1894-95	...	...	17,25,509
1895-96	...	...	15,23,143
1896-97	...	...	17,13,042
1897-98	...	...	16,11,268
1898-99	...	...	16,74,644
Total	...	...	1,50,77,334
Average	...	...	16,75,259

Thus the average annual arrears were Rs. 1,09,000.

Bad as the settlement of 1890-91 was in many respects, it was an improvement on any that had been made since the six years' settlement of 1862-63. The demand was not so much excessive on the whole—except in Bhusawar—as badly apportioned amongst the estates and badly distributed within them. From 1890-91 to 1894-95 the seasons were generally favourable, and cultivation steadily expanded in all tahsils. In 1895-96 and 1896-97 there was a serious failure of the rains, especially in the southern tahsils, which resulted in a severe scarcity, and the pressure employed in collecting the revenue led to wholesale desertions among the agricultural population, and threw a very large area out of cultivation. In 1897-98 the rainfall, though rather short, was well distributed and harvests were abundant all over the State.

In 1898-99 the rainfall was very defective in the northern tahsils, as well as in Bhusawar and Rupbas; and though there was a fair *khari*, the *rabi*, owing to the failure of the winter rains, was a poor one. Up to this date there had been a steady development and a marked expansion of cultivation in all tahsils due to (1) the general improvement in the administration since its reorganization in 1895, (2) the measures taken to control the Banganga floods and to restrain the wild cattle, and (3) the renewal and extension of the irrigation works all over the State.

The famine of 1899-1900, which has been so disastrous to Rajputana generally, dealt gently on the whole with Bharatpur. (g). Famine of 1899-1900. The average rainfall was 19 inches, but the defect was very marked in Dig (14.26), Kama (16.03), Pahari (18.16), Gopalgarh (14.28), Akheygarh (12.48), and Bhusawar (16.89). In all other tahsils the amount was over 20 inches, but everywhere the distribution was bad, as no rain fell from 20th August 1899 to 31st March 1900. The northern tahsils—which had escaped the scarcity of 1896-97—with Akheygarh and Bhusawar were the chief sufferers. In the latter two tahsils however the prevalence of well irrigation enabled the people to reap a fairly good crop on the wells, and the high prices of grain helped to keep them on their legs. While in the northern tahsils this resource was limited by the small proportion of *chahi* area, and the fact that a large proportion of the wells have bitter water, which, if not supplemented by winter rains, produces only stunted crops. The crisis was also aggravated in these tahsils by a destructive hailstorm in March 1900, which in Nagar, Pahari, Kama, and Dig ruined a large area of such well crops as had been brought to maturity. For this damage a remission of revenue, amounting to over Rs. 24,000, was sanctioned. Famine conditions may be said to have declared themselves from 1st September 1899 and to have disappeared by the end of August 1900, when the copious monsoon rains had assured the autumn crop.

Thanks to the prompt and liberal action of the administration, in suspending a large portion of the land revenue demand, in granting *takavi* freely for wells, seeds, and oxen, and in opening relief works and poorhouses wherever required, supplemented by gratuitous relief in the villages, the State, though subjected to a very severe strain, has been saved from a general calamity such as overtook it in 1877-78.

The daily average of persons on relief works from 5th November 1899 (r) Relief works and to 7th July 1900 was 1,835 workers and 263 depend- gratuitous relief. ents.

The cost of these relief operations was Rs. 2,04,860. The principle adopted was, as far as possible, to find suitable and remunerative forms of labour by expanding the Public Works Department machinery and increasing the funds at its disposal. Fortunately there were ample projects available at least in the central and southern tahsils in the forms of old irrigation dams to be restored, new ones to be constructed, channels to be dug from the Banganga, etc. Thus not only was suitable labour provided for the distressed population, but the State has secured a permanent and valuable return from the works executed, nearly all of which are productive and have been completed at a moderate cost. The daily average of persons gratuitously relieved was 258, and the cost Rs. 5,810.

To the agricultural population the most suitable and effective form of (s) Takavi advances relief, and one which in the long run costs the State little to Zamindars. or nothing, is the grant of *takavi* loans for wells, seed, and bullocks. The field for such loans is very wide in Bharatpur, as temporary *kacha* wells can be sunk nearly all over the State at small cost, on each of which from 5 to 10 *bighas* of irrigated crops can be raised. In spite of its depleted finances the State did all in its power to help the people in these ways, and the amounts advanced were as follows :—

Statement showing the Takavi advances made during the famine year 1956.

Serial No.	NAMES OF TAHSELS.	TAKAVI ADVANCES MADE		
		For purchase of seeds and bullocks, etc.	For wells.	Total.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Akheygarh	7,751	1,341	9,092
2	Oohain	1,779	1,071	2,850
3	Biyana	5,877	2,061	7,938
4	Weir	11,178	800	11,978
5	Rupbas	8,016	612	8,628
6	Pahari	5,766	1,325	7,091
7	Dig	13,030	1,345	14,375
8	Kama	10,907	600	11,507
9	Kumher	7,047	1,619	8,666
10	Nagar	11,595	1,460	13,055
	Total	82,946	12,234	95,180
11	Bharatpur	9,900	100	10,000
	Grand Total	92,846	12,334	1,05,180

The harshness shown in collecting the land revenue in the famine of (t) Suspensions and collections of revenue. 1877-78 was one of the main causes of the general panic which led to the desertion of the agricultural population *en masse*. In the recent famine the State, taught by bitter experience, spared no efforts to reassure the people. The new assessments of the northern and central tahsils were given out by me in August and October 1899, respectively,

when the strain of the impending famine was already making itself felt, but the Darbar empowered me at the same time to fix and announce suspensions of the new demand according to the circumstances of each estate. Similar action was taken by the Revenue authorities in the southern tahsils, and this, combined with the remission of all arrears prior to the settlement of 1890—a measure as wise as it was liberal—on the auspicious occasion of the birth of the present Maharaja, inspired such confidence in the people that not only no desertions took place as in past famines, but great number of deserters and absentees, who had held aloof from the land till the policy of the State in the new settlement had declared itself, returned and resumed possession of their abandoned holdings and estates. The total demand for 1899-1900 on account of land revenue cesses, arrears, etc., was Rs. 22,59,019, of which Rs. 24,498 (1 per cent.) was remitted for damage by hail, and Rs. 4, 30,567 (19 per cent.) was suspended owing to bad harvests, leaving Rs. 18,03,504 (80 per cent.) to be collected.

The actual collections come to Rs. 17,63,444, or 78 per cent. The result must be considered as an extremely good one for a famine year, and it was obtained without putting any undue pressure on the people. Of the arrears or suspended revenue, over one lakh was realised in the recent autumn harvest in the northern and central tahsils alone.

61. Thus from every point of view Bharatpur has come very well out of the recent famine. The bountiful harvests of the present year have largely conduced to this happy result. The monsoon was late in bursting, but a fairly good fall in July enabled unusually large sowings to be made. The sudden cessation of the rains for three weeks in August raised considerable anxiety, but the copious and prolonged rains in September helped to mature the best autumn crop the State has had for years, and gave the agriculturists the opportunity of sowing an unprecedentedly large *rabi* on *chahi*, *sairaba* and *barani* lands. The continuous winter rains from 20th December to the end of February—averaging $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches—have brought all of these sowings to maturity. The well crops have in many cases been matured with a single watering, the rain having done the rest. The excessive moisture has caused rust in the irrigated crops and the low lying *sairaba*, which will prevent the crop being quite such a bumper one as was at one time anticipated. The gram however has not suffered at all, and the *rabi* crop, both as regards area and outturn, may be taken as an 18-anna one. The *kharif* demand has been realised almost in full, as well as over a lakh of arrears, and equally good results are looked for in the *rabi*. Thus the settlement has received an excellent start, and except for the loss of cattle nearly all traces of the famine have been already obliterated.

62. This lengthy chapter may appropriately be brought to a close by an explanation of the action taken as regards the arrears from 1855 (all arrears prior to the summary settlement were remitted at the time) up to date.

Recovery from the famine
in the present year 1900.
1901.

These may be divided into—

- (1) arrears from the summary settlement of 1855 down to the settlement of 1890;
- (2) arrears during the currency of the expired settlement, *i.e.*, from 1890-91 to 1898-99 in the northern and central tahsils and to 1899-1900 in the southern tahsils;
- (3) arrears of 1898-99 and 1899-1900 in the northern and central tahsils.

Of these, (1) were remitted in full by order of the Darbar in 1899 to celebrate the birth of His Highness the present Maharaja; (2) were disposed of by me with the sanction of the Darbar in giving out the new assessments, part of the arrears being remitted, while for the balance to be realised instalments were fixed extending over the twenty years' term of settlement, so that they will be realised as part of the ordinary land revenue demand; (3) have still to be dealt

with. The following table shows by tahsils how (1) and (2) have been disposed of, and the present position as regards (3) :—

Table showing arrears since Sambat 1947 to Sambat 1955-1956, in northern, central and southern tahsils for realisations of which arrangements have now been made by instalments.

Serial No.	Names of Tahsils	Arrears from 1855 to 1890 remitted.	ARREARS SINCE SAMBAT 1947 TO 1956.				Realised.	Remitted.	To be realised.	REMARKS.
			to Sambat 1955.	to Sambat 1955.	to Sambat 1956.	Total.				
1	Pahari ...	10,96,122	16,194	...	46,137	62,331	26,894	4,902	30,535	
2	Kama ...		5,940	3,170	66,051	75,161	22,097	2,765	50,299	
3	Dig ...		13,258	5,141	67,925	86,324	19,806	5,360	61,158	
4	Kamber ...	23,79,816	40,778	...	38,576	79,354	10,397	20,371	48,586	
5	Akhegarh ...		98,757	...	24,160 (a) 15,710	1,38,627	8,895	78,415	51,317	(a) Arrears of 1899-1900 in four southern tahsils disposed of in giving out the new jama.
6	Nagar ...		2,596	...	60,200	62,796	7,996	991	53,809	
7	Bharatpur ...	8,63,490	1,40,713	...	26,416	1,67,129	4,885	1,12,051	50,193	
8	Rupbas ...		2,23,757	...	(a) 46,454	2,70,211	...	2,05,207	65,004	
9	Biyana ...		62,456	...	(a) 8,796	71,252	...	51,787	19,465	
10	Wair ...	43,39,428	1,65,023	...	5,746 (a) 56,180	2,26,949	140 ...	1,60,249	66,560	
	Total ...		7,69,472	8,311	4,62,351 (a) 1,27,140	12,40,134	1,01,110	6,42,098	4,96,926	

The final result is as follows :—As regards (1) arrears from 1855 to 1890 to the amount of Rs. 43,39,428, and all instalment of payments on account of them have been completely remitted ; (2) the arrears from 1890 down to the new assessment, which include those of the famine year 1899-1900 in the southern tahsils, amount to Rs. 8,96,612, of which Rs. 6,42,098 have been remitted in announcing the new assessments, and the balance, Rs. 2,54,514, will be realised in instalments usually spread over the period of settlement ; (3) the arrears of 1898-99 not disposed of in the new assessment in Kama and Dig amount to Rs. 8,311, and the total arrears of the famine year (1899-1900) for the whole State come to Rs. 4,62,351, of which Rs. 1,27,140 in the southern tahsils were disposed of in giving out the assessments in August last, leaving Rs. 3,35,211 in the northern and central tahsils for 1899-1900, as well as the Rs. 8,311 (for Kama and Dig) of 1898-99—a total of Rs. 3,43,522 still under disposal. Of this, no less than Rs. 1,01,110 was realised in the northern and central tahsils in the autumn harvest of 1900, leaving only Rs. 2,42,412 still due. Of this amount, it is proposed to realise about one lakh in the present *rabi* harvest, and the balance—i.e., such amount as remains unrealised—should, in my opinion, be remitted. The State will have done remarkably well by realising over 90 per cent. of the demand for a year of famine, and to press for more, in the face of the serious enhancement of the land revenue demand, would be inequitable. As bearing on this point, I may quote the orders of the Government of India in dealing with the proposals for the southern tahsils, as the principle embodied therein is one of general application :—

“It is a general rule in a British district that, in starting a new settlement with an enhanced assessment, all outstanding arrears of revenue are wiped off. In the present case there would appear to be no objection to the recovery by instalments of so much of the arrears in question as Mr. O'Dwyer may think reasonable. To go further than this, and to leave other arrears hanging over the heads of the people on the indefinite understanding that they may or may not be recovered at some future time, is a measure which the

Government of India could not approve. It might easily result in the matter being left in the hands of overzealous or unscrupulous revenue subordinates. The State Council should accordingly be advised to sanction absolute remission of all arrears of revenue outside those for which instalments may be fixed."

If the Darbar acts on this suggestion, the final result will be that Rs. 2,54,514 will be realised by instalments on account of (2) alone, and a sum of about one lakh will be realised in the year 1900-1901 on account of (3) and all other arrears, *viz.* :—

					Rs.
On account of (1)	...	...	...	...	43,39,428
On account of (2)	...	...	...	...	6,42,098
On account of (3) about	...	...	...	...	1,42,412
Total ..					<u>51,23,938</u>

will be remitted.

Combining (2) and (3) the total arrears for the ten years, 1890-91 to 1899-1900 amount to Rs. 12,40,134, or over 60 per cent. of one year's demand. In other words, about 94 per cent. of the demand for the whole period was realised and 6 per cent. remained in arrears. Of this Rs. 12,40,134, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 lakhs will be collected in the present year, or by the instalments now fixed, and from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 lakhs have been or will be remitted.

63. The relief to the people has been immense, and lest it may be considered hereafter that the liberality now shown may tend to demoralise them by encouraging them to accumulate arrears in future in the hope of similar indulgence, I may here repeat the arguments I used in favour of a generous policy soon after I assumed charge of the settlement.

"It has been shown that these arrears have accumulated not from any refusal or unwillingness of the Zamindars to meet their liabilities, but from sheer inability to pay in years of famine or scarcity. A considerable amount of these old arrears has been paid up in years when good harvests left any margin of profit. In addition to the instalments fixed at last settlement, the Tahsildars have, whenever a favourable opportunity offered, been in the habit of swooping down on the villagers with a demand for payment of old arrears. The realisation of balances has hitherto received little supervision from the Revenue authorities, but has been left almost entirely to the discretion of the Tahsildars. The result is continual interference in the *bachh* and other revenue arrangements of the village communities, while by leaving the door open to indefinite demands of this nature abuses are likely to creep in. In fact many villages allege that they have paid up and not received credit for part of the arrears still shown against them.

The present system puts a premium on idleness on the part of the Zamindars, for the more they extend their cultivation the greater is the demand upon them, and on dishonesty on the part of the Revenue officials. The marvel is that under the circumstances the Zamindars have not lost heart completely. Were they made of less stern stuff, they would have done so, but the famine of 1877-78 has taught them the severe but useful lesson, that the lot of those who desert is infinitely worse than that of those who remain behind. Hence they have stuck to the land at all costs, and in the recent years of scarcity there was hardly a single desertion in these tahsils. It has also taught them the necessity of prudence and thrift, and with a few exceptions it would be hard to find better revenue-payers than the State possesses in the agricultural classes of these tahsils. With them the payment of the State demand has always been the first consideration; to meet it they will stint themselves and strip their children. Hitherto the only return they have received for their enterprise and sacrifice has been a steady increase of their burthens. In their interests, as well as those of the State and of common justice, it is essential that they should now be relieved of part of these burthens, *viz.*, the old arrears prior to 1890-91. The effect of such relief will, I am convinced, be to put new heart into them, and in the long run to better the finances of the State."

CHAPTER III.

SURVEY AND RECORDS.

64. As regards the preparation of maps and records in the new settlement—which is the first Regular Settlement of the Bharatpur State—the principle laid down by the Government of India was that this work should be carried out by the local Patwari and Kanungo agency. In the Government of India letter No. 1949-I. A., dated 17th June 1896, para. 3, issued after receiving Mr. Colvin's memorandum of March 1896, the following directions were given :—

“In the Alwar State a new survey has apparently been undertaken by a staff of Amins. It should be stated, firstly, whether this survey has been founded upon a professional traverse, so that the map can be used as the basis of topographical maps; and, secondly, whether the services of village officers are being utilised for the work.

“The Government of India attach considerable importance to the employment of the latter agency for both survey and settlement purposes, for by this means not only are the original operations reduced in cost and conducted with a minimum of harassment to the people, but the trained agency, which is necessary for the maintenance of a permanent record, is assured, to the avoidance of periodical surveys and revisions and to the great benefit of the State in other respects. The same remarks apply with still greater force to the Bharatpur State, where it is understood that survey operations have not yet begun. It will, therefore be to the advantage of both Darbars that, on his return, Mr. Colvin should first proceed to Gwalior to make himself acquainted with the details of the above system as successfully introduced there by Colonel Pitcher.”

On the receipt of a further report from the Political Agent, the same principle was emphasised in para. 2 of their letter No. 43-I. A., dated 5th January 1897 :—

2. “In the matter of survey nothing further remains to be done in the Alwar State except to extend the measure to jagir and *istimrari* villages and to check the results of the recent operations. In the Bharatpur State some time has elapsed since the last survey and no *khasrahs* now exist; probably, therefore, a re-survey will be necessary. Should this be the case, Amins should not be employed, but village officials should be utilized for the reasons given in my letter No. 1949-I. A., dated the 17th June 1896. Their initial training which Colonel Loch has already begun, should not occupy more than a few months, and the saving in cost will more than compensate for the short protraction of the operations; moreover, by this means future settlements will be both cheapened and simplified. On the other hand, if the Darbar lose the present opportunity, they will indefinitely postpone the introduction of the system of village agency, which in Gwalior, as in British India, has resulted in increased efficiency combined with great saving of expense.”

These directions have been acted on throughout. The Patwari agency, which in Bharatpur is fairly well paid and strong in numbers, though at the beginning weak in all knowledge of revenue work beyond that connected with realising the revenue, has been utilised throughout for amending the maps and preparing the new records.

65. The Kanungo establishment was however [very weak,—only one or two men per tahsil,—badly paid, and inefficient, and had to be supplemented by a strong body of settlement trained Munsarims borrowed generally from the Patwari or Settlement establishment of Punjab districts. From six to ten of such men—paid from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 per month—were employed in each tahsil to train and supervise the Patwaris and local Kanungos. The work in each tahsil was under the immediate supervision of a Sadar Munsarim on Rs. 40 to Rs. 60 per mensem—corresponding to a Deputy Superintendent in Punjab Settlements. These were in the beginning borrowed from among the best Kanungos in Punjab districts and later on were selected from the best of the Munsarims,

Nearly all of the Munsarims and Sadar Munsarims who had not already secured certificates of efficiency as Kanungos were encouraged to obtain them, and by the courtesy of the Director of Land Records, Punjab, were allowed to present themselves for examination. The result has been most satisfactory. Of 43 men who appeared, no less than 20 have passed the examination—several with credit. Thus those who were Patwaris in the Punjab have qualified themselves for promotion to the post of Kanungo, while those who have hitherto held no substantive post have, by the possession of certificates of efficiency, bettered their chances of future employment. All round, this imported agency has done extremely well for the State and for itself. In the reorganisation of the State Revenue Department two Sadar Munsarims, who were formerly Kanungos in the Punjab, have been appointed Naib-Tahsildars, and a third has been appointed Naib-Sarishtadar in the Council office; 9 men have been appointed as Kanungos in the tahsils, others have received posts in the clerical establishment, while most of the remainder are likely to receive employment in the Patiala State Settlement.

66. The superior agency consisted of—(1) Mr. A. H. Pyster, an officer borrowed by Mr. Colvin from the Bengal Survey in January 1897. He started the work in the northern tahsils, prepared the preliminary record in Akhegarh and Bharatpur, and was in direct charge of the settlement operations in Rupbas, Oochain, and Biyana from start to finish. On the close of the settlement he takes up a similar appointment in the Indore State Settlement. (2) Sayad Mahmud Hossain had been employed in the State as sole Deputy Collector from 1894. As he had been trained in Punjab settlements, and had a good knowledge of the revenue system of the State, I decided, with the sanction of the Darbar, to utilise him in the settlement, giving him a special settlement allowance, while at the same time he carried on the duties of Revenue Deputy Collector. He has held charge of the work in the four tahsils—now reduced to three—of Pahari, Gopalgarh, Nagar, and Bharatpur. The experience he has thereby gained will be useful to him in carrying on the duties of Deputy Collector hereafter. (3) Munshi Hira Singh, who was a Settlement Tahsildar and is now a qualified candidate for the post of Extra Assistant Commissioner in the Punjab, was lent to me for employment in the settlement in September 1897. He has been in charge of five tahsils,—Dig, Kama, Kumbher, Akhegarh, and Bhusawar,—embracing nearly half of the State, and the most complicated and delicate portion of the work. I have no hesitation in saying that without his thorough knowledge of settlement work, sound judgment, readiness of resource, capacity of adapting himself to local conditions and of getting the best work out of inferior instruments, the settlement of the State would have been a longer, costlier, and more difficult operation than it has proved. The State is to be congratulated on the fact that it has secured his services as joint Deputy Collector from 1st April 1900 for a term of five years, which should be extended by a similar term if his work proves as thorough and satisfactory in the future as in the past.

67. A revenue survey of the whole State was made by the Survey Department in 1856—58, and the village maps then prepared, on the scale of 4 inches to the mile, though out of date in some respects, are still very useful for topographical purposes.

Survey and records of rights:
(1) General maps of the State and tahsils.

These maps were reduced by the Survey Department to the scale of one mile to the inch, and maps of the different tahsils showing village boundaries and the ordinary topographical details were issued between 1857 and 1868. These maps are now in many respects obsolete owing to alterations in tahsil boundaries,—the number having been reduced from 14 to 10,—changes in villages, streams, exchange of villages with Alwar State, etc. A new map of the State on the scale of 1 mile to the inch is absolutely necessary, and the following arrangements have now been made to secure it.

The old professional survey sheets on the scale of one mile to the inch (which show village boundaries and all the main topographical details as they

existed when the maps were made) have been carefully pieced together, so as to give a complete map of the State on one sheet—

This map has been brought up to date by showing—

- (a) the boundaries of the tahsils as now fixed ;
- (b) all changes of village boundaries owing to the splitting up of one estate into two or more, or the clubbing of two or more estates into one;
- (c) the correct names of the estates, those on the printed survey sheets being frequently grotesquely erroneous;
- (d) further topographical details which will make the map more valuable for reference, *viz.*, new roads, canals, and large irrigation dams restored or constructed by the State;
- (e) corrections of the old topographical details where erroneous, *e.g.*, as regards the alignment of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway ;
- (f) changes in the course of the Banganga and other streams since the professional survey maps were prepared.

This revised and corrected map has been sent to the Executive Engineer for further check and correction, and when it has been passed by him it should be sent, with a complete index giving the correct spellings of the names of villages, etc., to the Surveyor General's office at Calcutta, who should be asked to have 100 copies struck off, if possible, for distribution and record. This will dispose of the case as regards the map of the State. Twenty-five copies of the corrected map of each tahsil on this—1 mile per inch—scale have been lithographed and distributed to all the offices in the State.

Field maps on the scale of 20 to 24 inches per mile were prepared by (2) Field maps of each Patwaris and Amins in 1856—58 after the village boundaries had been defined by the survey officials. These were not however kept up to date, and as no new maps were prepared or old maps revised up to the settlement of 1890, they had become obsolete. As already described in Chapter II, a plane-table survey of the State was made in 1888—90 as a preparation for the new assessment, under the supervision of Sheikh Asghar Ali, Deputy Collector, and Dr. Rahim Bakhsh, through the agency of imported Amins and Munsarims. This survey cost about Rs. 65,000. It was fairly accurate, but the assessment papers and records of ownership, cultivation, etc. were quite incomplete and unreliable.

In March 1896 Mr. Colvin made a brief inspection of the maps and records prepared in the 1890 settlement, and came to the conclusion that the record was unreliable and must be prepared anew, but that the maps then prepared might be utilised if they stood the test of checking by a trained Surveyor.

In the hot weather and rains of 1896 a capable Surveyor was deputed for this purpose from the Survey Office, Calcutta, who made an independent check of 24 maps, two in each tahsil. The method adopted was to take two fixed points in each estate, survey from the line between them by offsets on the various field boundaries, and compare the results with the maps prepared in 1889-90 by the Amins, which meantime were kept under lock and key. The comparison was carried out in the Survey Office, Calcutta, and the Deputy Surveyor-General, in returning the settlement maps with the corresponding traces of the re-survey of the boundaries and of the check line in each, wrote (see his letter No. 1119, dated 3rd December 1896) :—

“You will perceive that the old maps are fairly correct as to the peripheries, and that, when a field is identical in shape in the two maps, its agreement is good, but there seems to be a number of changes. Your maps, when brought up to date, will serve as indexes, showing the relative position of all details, to the *khasras* which contain the measurements for area purposes, but the maps not being accurate survey cannot take the place of professional maps.”

This report showed that for assessment purposes it was sufficient to bring the maps of 1889-90 up to date, and this is the line that has been followed—new surveys having been made in a few cases where the existing maps were found to be very incorrect, or where considerable changes had taken place owing to partition, breaking up of waste, etc.

68. The total number of estates re-surveyed was only 21. In all other estates the maps of 1890 were brought up to date, viz., those of the northern and central tahsils in 1897-98 and those of the southern tahsils in 1898-99.

The method adopted was that copies of the original maps were made on tracing cloth. The tenure of the village having been determined by the Deputy Collectors, the shares—where owners held by shares—fixed, and the *khatauni* holdings written out, the Patwaris made a field to field inspection of the village, wrote up the *khasra*, compared the field boundaries, linear dimensions, and areas as shown in the old *khasra* with those ascertained on the spot, and made necessary corrections in the tracing where (1) the boundaries had changed, or (2) the area was erroneous, so that the tracing should accord with existing conditions. All amendments were shown in red ink, and after they had been checked by the expert staff of Munsarims and Sadar Munsarims the original maps of 1890 were amended accordingly. At the beginning of the work the areas were extracted in the office by the *bigha* comb; but after I assumed charge, I insisted that the areas should be worked out in the field by the ordinary rules of mensuration and at once entered in the Zamindars' or cultivators' *parcha*. This was a useful check on the accuracy of the work.

Records prepared in the village.

69. The following papers were prepared locally :—

- (A) *Shajra nasib* or genealogical tree. This shows descent of the owners from a common ancestor where possible, existing shares, etc. It was prepared by the Munsarims, and, as far as possible, efforts were made to connect it with the common ancestor. Where this was not practicable, only as many generations were shown as were necessary to determine shares, etc.
- (B) *Khataunis* or lists giving details of the fields in each proprietary and tenancy holding. These were prepared concurrently with the *khasra* and the amendment of the field map.
- (C) Field map (*shajra*) and field registers (*khasra*) and statement of wells.

All these documents were prepared in the first instance by the Patwari, and checked on the ground by Munsarims, Sadar Munsarims, and Circle officers.

70. Since the summary settlement a cess (known as *dami*) of Rs. 3-2-0 per cent. on the *khalsa* land and of two pice per *bigha* or per rupee on the valuation of revenue-free land has been levied on account of the Patwari's pay. This is a relic of Akbar's system, in which one *dam* per rupee was levied for a similar object. The funds thereby provided are ample for the purpose, but they have never been properly applied.

Prior to the present settlement the grades and circles of Patwaris were never regularly defined. The pay depended on the circle and bore no relation to the qualifications of the incumbent and the amount of work to be done. The villages of a circle were not necessarily contiguous, and often lay at a great distance from each other. For *inam* and *mafi* villages a separate staff of Patwaris was employed and paid from the *dami* cess of these villages. In 1895 the Patwaris of *mafi* and *inams*—43 in number and paid Rs. 312 per mensem—were dismissed and their work made over to the Patwaris of the adjoining *khalsa* villages. These however were found unable to do the extra work, especially in Dig and Kumbher, where the proportion of *inam*, *chauth*, and *mafi* holdings is very large, and thus the number of Patwaris in these tahsils was inadequate. On the other hand, in some tahsils—i.e., Akhegarh and Bhusawar—the number of Patwaris was far in excess of what was required.

71. In the course of the settlement the surplus Patwaris of such tahsils were transferred to others where the number was too few. When the settlement operations in each group of tahsils were brought to a conclusion, data were available to show (1) the future income from the Patwari cess, (2) the number of Patwaris required, and proposals were put forward accordingly to reorganise and re-grade the establishment of each tahsil, improve the rates of pay, and grade each man according to his work and qualifications. In arranging the circles of Patwaris the following points have now been kept in view :—

- (1) that the amount of work should not be excessive ;
- (2) that at present the Patwaris have to perform duties in regard to collection of revenue which in British districts are performed by the Lambardars ;
- (3) that villages belonging to the same body of owners should be, as far as possible, included in one circle ;
- (4) that the villages of each circle be contiguous ;
- (5) that the pay should be sufficient to secure qualified men.

The average pay was formerly about Rs. 7-12-0 per mensem. The Patwaris have now been arranged into four grades, the pay of which is Rs. 8, Rs. 9, Rs. 10, and Rs. 11 per mensem ; the number has been reduced from 624, including the *inam* Patwaris, to 504, but the average pay has risen to over Rs. 9 per mensem, and eventually, when more men are promoted to the higher grades, will average Rs. 9-8-0 per mensem. This reform has been effected at no extra cost to the State—in fact, the monthly expenditure on salaries has been reduced from Rs. 4,938 to Rs. 4,586.

The following shows the average statistics for each Patwari's circle under the old and the new system :—

							Former.	Present.
Total area (<i>highas</i>)...	..	...	...	...	...	...	5,300	6,330
Cultivated (<i>highas</i>)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,400	3,812
Number of fields ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,600	2,022
Number of holdings {	proprietary	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
	tenancy	...	...	...	...	...	240	431
Average land revenue	...	...	...	...	...	Rs.	3,330	4,704

The figures include *mafi* as well as *khalsa* lands. The present circles are by no means large, and the Patwaris should have no difficulty in keeping pace with their work.

During the settlement they have been instructed in surveying by the plane-table and square systems in the calculation of areas, revision of maps, and re-laying of boundaries, while the general rule that each man should prepare the records of his own circle has given all of them who were able or willing to learn a thorough knowledge of record work.

Most of the old and inefficient men have been gradually weeded out, but the difficulty of finding suitable material has often led to the retention of men who are not quite up to the work. They are weakest in surveying, and many have not yet learned to find their way quickly through a map.

72. To correct this defect and secure systematic instruction in their other duties, including the new rules and forms now prescribed, Patwari schools should be opened at Dig and Bharatpur, under the supervision of the Deputy Collectors, from June to September, under a competent instructor. Promising youths from among the Patwaris' relations or outsiders should be encouraged to come forward as candidates by the grant of small stipends of Rs. 2 per mensem. In September an examination should be held, certificates granted, and the candidates who have qualified should be registered for employment on the occurrence of a vacancy. The State Council has at my suggestion approved of this plan, and directed a school to be opened on these lines at Dig in the hot weather. Similar measures

Proposals for the training and improvement of the Patwaris.

should be taken at Bharatpur. At present most of the Patwaris know only Hindi, and their copy of the record is in that language. It is very desirable that they should know Urdu as well, and in future preference should be given to such candidates as know both.

Statistics of Patwaris and cess by tahsils.

73. The following table shows by tahsils the former and present number of Patwaris and the pay allowed to them:—

Serial No.	NAMES OF TAHSILS.	Former number of Patwaris.	Number of Patwaris who resigned or were dismissed.	Number of Patwaris newly appointed.	PRESENT NUMBER OF PATWARIS.				Former pay.	Present pay.	Patwari cess.	Patwaris' annual expenditure.
					Knowing Urdu.	Knowing Hindi.	Knowing Urdu and Hindi both.	Total.				
1	Pahari	54	13	8	...	33	16	49	434	450	7,345	5,509
2	Kama	39	20	17	...	24	12	36	318	323	5,616	3,876
3	Dig	44	6	14	...	39	13	52	404	471	6,702	5,652
4	Kurcher	47	19	22	3	33	14	50	320	429	5,931	5,148
5	Akhergarh	69	17	3	...	37	8	45	463	403	7,721	4,836
6	Nagar	73	28	13	2	38	18	56	632	556	9,441	6,672
7	Bharatpur	47	3	11	...	46	9	55	381	466	6,029	5,592
8	Rupbas	73	23	3	...	45	8	53	521	503	8,169	6,086
9	Byana	60	15	4	...	34	15	49	486	458	7,784	5,490
10	Wair	85	28	...	...	14	43	57	667	518	9,221	6,216
	Total	581	172	95	5	313	156	504	4,626	4,586	73,960	55,032
	Inam	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	312	...
	Grand Total	624	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,938	...

74. The office of Kanungo, like that of Patwari, is not hereditary in Bharatpur. Before the present settlement there was an office Kanungo and one Girdawar Kanungo in every tahsil; their pay was wretchedly inadequate, some of them receiving only Rs. 6 per mensem, while the average was under Rs. 11 per mensem, and their capacity was in proportion to their pay. In the course of this settlement all the field and office Kanungos have been trained in settlement work and made to work as Munsarims.

Rai Bahadur Munshi Sohan Lal, when in charge of the Revenue Department, arranged for the appointment of two field Kanungos on Rs. 15 and Rs. 20 per mensem in each tahsil,—the rates have since been raised to Rs. 20 and Rs. 25,—and also for the payment of Rs. 20 per mensem to the office Kanungo. This had an excellent effect, as it enables us to command the services of capable men. Accordingly the old Kanungos have endeavoured to qualify themselves for retaining their posts by working in the settlement as Munsarims, and most of them have in this way obtained a good knowledge of their work. For the extra post in each tahsil one of the Settlement Munsarims has been, or will be, selected.

The present field and office Kanungos are now well acquainted with every branch of settlement and revenue work; they are well paid, and there should be no difficulty in securing well-qualified men selected either from the most capable of the Patwaris or officials trained in settlement for any vacancies that may hereafter occur. The possession of a certificate of efficiency from the Director, Land Records, Punjab or North-Western Provinces, or the passing of a similar test locally, should be insisted on.

The following table shows the number of Kanungos and their former and present pay :—

Serial No.	NAMES OF TAHSILS.	FORMER			PRESENT		
		Girdawar.	Registrar.	Pay.	Girdawar.	Registrar.	Pay.
1	Pahari	2	1	33	2	1	53
2	Kama	1	1	27	2	1	65
3	Dig	1	1	30	2	1	62
4	Kumhor	1	1	16	2	1	65
5	Akheygarh	1	1	25	2	1	63
6	Nagar	2	2	31	2	1	50
7	Bharatpur	1	1	30	2	2	80
8	Rupbas	2	2	35	2	1	55
9	Biyana	1	1	17	2	1	55
10	Wair	1	1	28	2	1	58
	Total	13	12	272	20	11	606

The number has been increased from 25 to 31—the monthly pay from Rs. 272 to Rs. 606; but this increase is more than covered by the savings in pay of Patwaris. The pay as finally fixed is Rs. 20 per mensem for office Kanungos and Rs. 20 and Rs. 25 for field Kanungos. The whole expenditure can be met from the Patwar fund, which also provides for the appointment of two Sadar Kanungos—one for each Deputy Collector—on Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 per mensem.

75. I think it may be claimed that the Patwari and Kanungo agency has been raised to a high level of efficiency for a Native State, and, if properly supervised, they should have no difficulty in keeping the record up to date, preparing the annual agricultural statistics (see Appendix) now prescribed for submission to the Government of India and for the use of the State, and thus providing a continuous record-of-rights and of agricultural statistics which will enable the next settlement to be made cheaply and expeditiously.

76. As explained in Chapter I, in the course of the settlement the number of tahsils has been reduced from 12 to 10. Gopalgarh and Oochain have now disappeared. The former was amalgamated with Pahari and Nagar, while the latter was included in Akheygarh and Rupbas. Besides this, transfers of villages were made from one tahsil to another in order to adjust the boundaries and for administrative convenience.

A list showing those transfers of villages from one tahsil to another is included in the Appendices. The following table shows the years in which records were prepared and the new *jamas* introduced in each tahsil :—

TAHSILS.	Year to which entries of cultivation and rent made in the records refer.	Year from which the new jama is introduced.
Pahari, Kama, Dig, Kumhor, Akheygarh, Nagar, and Bharatpur.	1897-98, corresponding to Sambat 1954.	1899-1900, corresponding to Sambat 1956.
Rupbas, Biyana, and Wair.	1898-99, corresponding to Sambat 1955.	1900-1901, corresponding to Sambat 1957.

77. Two copies of the record-of-rights have been prepared. That in Hindi for the Patwaris use has been prepared by the Patwaris themselves, and the State copy in Urdu by Muharrirs and Munsarims. It was originally proposed by Mr. Colvin to have both copies in Hindi; but it was afterwards decided, in consultation with the Political Agent and Council, to have the State copy in Urdu, as all the superior Civil and Revenue officials know Urdu, which is the office language; while many of them do not know Hindi. The latter, though the language of the people, from its poverty of expression, is a very poor medium for explaining technical terms such as occur in the *wajib-ul-arz*, *bachh*, etc. Both these copies have been carefully compared with one another and with the papers prepared on the ground. They have been checked and signed by the Munsarims and Sadar Munsarims, and finally by Circle officers. The record-of-rights contains the following documents:—

1. Field Register (*khasra*).
2. Field Map (*shajra*).
3. Genealogical tree (*shajra nasb*), with details of tenures and shares.
4. *Khewat khatauni* or *jamabandi*.
5. Register of disputes decided summarily.
6. Register of tenancy cases decided.
7. Statement of wells.
8. Statement of gardens.
9. Statement of revenue-free grants.
10. Village administration paper (*wajib-ul-arz*).
11. Order of Settlement Commissioner fixing the assessment.
12. Order of the Deputy Collector fixing the distribution (*bachh*).
13. Final proceeding.

Attempts had been made in the settlements of 1855—57 and of 1890 to prepare some of these documents, but they were usually incomplete and unattested, and it may be said that they have now been prepared for the first time.

The only difference between the Patwari's and the State copy is that the latter contains the original register of disputes and of tenancy cases, and no copies of these are in the Patwari's record. In the Patwari's copy the *shajra nasab* is on paper, while in the State copy it has been very carefully written out on long cloth (*latha*), so as to be permanently preserved. Besides the two copies of the field map with the Urdu and Hindi records, the Patwari has also been supplied with a copy on cloth for work in the field.

Difficulties in the preparation of the records.

78. In the preparation of records-of-rights we were confronted with great difficulties.

The old records of 1855—57 and 1890 being incomplete and unattested were of little help in preparing the new records-of-rights. They frequently did not contain any *khewat* or statement of proprietary rights. The entries in the *khasras* were generally incomplete or vague. In the owner's column only the names of one or two owners were usually shown, and sometimes the names of tenants were also shown in the column of ownership. As for the Patwari's annual papers they were even more incomplete and misleading.

For *masfi* and *inam* estates no records were forthcoming except the rough measurement papers of 1888—90, and, as a rule, in case of dispute, columns were left blank or filled in pencil. The result was that one set of entries often contradicted the other. In fact, no regular settlement had been previously made in Bharatpur, and consequently all questions connected with proprietary and tenancy rights, revenue liability, shares in estates, tenure on which estates were held, rights of Lambardars and Masfidars, claims of deserting and absconded owners to recover their lands, rights in irrigation wells,—in fact everything bearing on the revenue administration,—was in a state of confusion, amounting to chaos. No rules had ever been formulated by the State for the guidance of the Courts or Revenue officials in dealing with such questions, and the chief—in many

cases the only—basis on which we could rely in attempting to evolve order out of chaos, by accurately ascertaining and recording rights and liabilities, of which there was no previous authoritative record, was the sense of their customary rights and liabilities, which is never found absent in the agricultural communities of India, and which, though often dimly realised, is nevertheless jealously guarded and tenaciously insisted on in case of infringement or interference.

Boundary disputes :
(a) With foreign territory.

79. In the course of the settlement the following disputes with foreign territory were decided :—

- (1) A dispute as to a small area between Bhinakpuri (Nagar) and Kherli (Govindgarh) ; the disputed area was included in Kherli.
- (2) Between the Zamindars of Basi Deo (Kama) and Mahrana (Mattra district) a compromise was agreed to between both villages and the boundary of last settlement was maintained.
- (3) Between Dhadren, Khuntपुरi (Biyana) and Surot, Zahirpur, and Pai of Jaipur. The disputed area was less than one *bigha* and was included provisionally in the Bharatpur State according to the previous settlements ; but the maps of the two States do not correspond. The dispute is still pending.
- (4) Between Sanghaoli (Rupbas) and Udela (Agra) disposed of on 5th September 1900 in accordance with the professional survey maps of 1857-58. With the sanction of the Board of Revenue, North-Western Provinces, the disputed area was included into Sanghaoli.
- (5) Between Kondri (Agra) and Sawantgarh (Biyana) about 8 *bighas*. The area in dispute has been included in Sawantgarh.

The only disputed boundary between Zamindars and the State was one between *rund* Heylak and Si, in which the boundary of last settlement was maintained in favour of the State

(b) With State lands.
rund.

(c) Between *khalsa* and *mafi* villages.
There was no dispute between *khalsa* and *mafi* estates.

The boundary disputes between *khalsa* villages were very few and, such as arose were easily disposed of. Village boundaries are, as a rule, well defined by stone pillars. In case of dispute the maps of last settlement were referred to, and when these did not correspond the professional survey maps of 1855—57 were taken as the basis of decision.

80. One of the most necessary and, at the same time, one of the most difficult operations in framing a complete and correct record was the settlement on permanent lines of estates and holdings which had in the past been deserted or abandoned by the owners, or which, for these or other reasons, had come under direct management (*kham*). The frequent visitations of famines in the past years, coupled with a bad revenue administration, had caused thousands of owners to abandon their lands from time to time, especially in the central or southern tahsils. Some of these migrated to foreign territory, where they settled and died, and some remained in the State ; but to escape the burden of arrears and responsibility for a *jama* which had become excessive, they preferred to cultivate as tenants-at-will in other villages rather than possess the rights and liabilities of owners in their own.

The shareholders who remained behind were made to assume responsibility for those who had deserted. This had the inevitable result of breaking down the village community still more. More and more land went out of cultivation, and the rates became so oppressive that the remaining owners either refused liability for the revenue or wantonly allowed their land to lie fallow. As a partial and short-sighted remedy for this, the State issued orders that cultivators should

not be made to pay at higher rates than owners, the revenue demand being distributed equally over all, and where the owner realised any profit rents these were liable to be confiscated by the State. The effect of this was not to improve the position of the cultivators, but to lower that of the owners.

Meantime the revenue got more and more into arrears, though attempts were made to realise not only the current demand, but the old balances; land deteriorated in value; and no one would come forward to take up deserted holdings or land put up for sale on account of arrears.

The number of owners who deserted in each tahsil and the area abandoned are shown in the following table:—

Serial No.	NAMES OF TAHSILS.	IN AND BEFORE 1877-78.			SINCE 1877-78.		
		Number of deserters.	Number of khatas.	Area.	Number of deserters.	Number of khatas.	Area.
1	Gopalgarh...	1,115	466	11,717	...	...	...
2	Pahari ...	95	36	521	...	...	...
3	Kama ...	299	200	10,958	210	175	6,923
4	Dig ...	483	406	10,756	183	139	4,305
5	Kumher ...	1,365	537	29,763	1,024	480	19,909
6	Akheygarh ...	548	143	19,805	603	224	21,705
7	Bharatpur...	745	244	8,002	927	318	13,077
8	Nagar ...	936	239	10,420	669	33	17,307
9	Rupbas ..	496	306	4,358	561	264	3,951
10	Oochain ...	584	164	16,180	841	275	22,692
11	Biyana ...	2,748	1,318	61,803	1,184	811	25,577
12	Wair ...	1,710	849	60,169	1,633	818	54,664
	Total ...	11,124	4,908	211,452	7,885	3,570	190,110

It appears that 18,959 owners, or about one-fourth of the total number, have abandoned their land since the summary settlement, and the area abandoned comes to over one-seventh of the total *khalsa* area. The tahsils of Wair, Biyana, Kumher, Akheygarh, and Oochain were in the order named those most seriously affected; the Meo tahsils suffered least, partly because the revenue was least oppressive, and partly because the population is dense and was able to maintain the cultivation.

The area of land thus deserted by the old owners was either taken possession of by relations of the deserters or by other Zamindars of the estate, or was formally transferred by the State to co-sharers or others willing to assume revenue liability, and these have now been recognised as owners. Where such schemes failed, a favourite device was to bring the estate or holding under *kham* management.

Given efficient management this arrangement, though not a desirable one, might serve as a temporary expedient. As worked in Bharatpur, where *kham* estates are managed by the Naib-Tahsildars through the local Kanungo or Patwari, generally with an eye rather to their own interests than to those of the State, the system has caused immense loss to the State and further deterioration in the condition of the villages. As an example of the abuses prevalent, I may mention a case brought to my notice in Biyana this year, where the Naib-Tahsildar had leased 50 *bighas* of land for annas 8 per *bigha*, for which the Tahsildar had no difficulty in obtaining Rs. 3-4-0 per *bigha*, and that, too, paid in advance.

One of the many evils in the old assessments was that where an estate was *kham* or deserted a nominal *jama* was fixed and no steps were taken to arrange

for its future payment, the result being an enormous accumulation of arrears in such cases. Every case of a *kham* estate or holding has now been taken up and arrangements made for the abolition of the *kham* system from the new assessment. Where, as generally happens, the old owners agreed to accept a fixed assessment and could show their ability or give security to pay it, the land was settled with them in whole or in part, and where they refused or were unable to accept liability arrangements have been made with other agriculturists.

The main obstacle to the successful settlement of these lands was that of liability for past arrears. Till the Zamindars knew how these were to be disposed of, no promises could induce them to accept responsibility. In nearly all cases I therefore fixed the amount of arrears to be remitted and to be realised to start with, and fixed instalments for the latter spread over the term of settlement. Once this difficulty was overcome the task was a comparatively easy one. The following table shows the number of estates and holdings hitherto managed *kham*, which have now been permanently settled :—

Serial No.	NAMES OF TAHSILS.	Number of whole estates.	Number of villages in shares.	Total area.	Cultivated.	Old jama.	REMARKS.
1	Pahari	4	...	2,316	702	821	Managed <i>kham</i> .
2	Kama ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
3	Dig	1	...	2,506	33	44	
4	Kumber	6	7	18,412	7,256	7,872	
5	Akheygarh ... ..	...	4	1,423	976	954
6	Nagar	1	...	524	397	1,186	
7	Bharatpur	4	4	8,257	1,395	2,930	
8	Rupbas	3	4	7,335	4,193	5,958	Sir Sirkar and Ballabgarh managed <i>kham</i> .
9	Biyana	1	...	6,930	1,679	2,650	
10	Wair	6	6	23,871	11,801	19,728	
	Total	26	20	71,574	28,432	42,143	

It will be seen that no less than 26 whole estates and shares, amounting to 20 estates, have now been successfully settled; the proprietary rights have been defined; and the land revenue, now fixed for the term of settlement, has been accepted by the Zamindars. This settlement has been effected by restoring the proprietary rights in the whole area, or as much of it as they could manage, to the owners, and assisting them with *takavi* advances for the purchase of oxen and seed. Failing this, the land has been made over to other agriculturists of the same or neighbouring villages. There are now only the following *kham* estates in the State:—(1) Bharatpur Khas, (2) Srinagar, (3) Kumber Khas, (4) Sir Sirkar (Wair), (5) Ballabgarh, and (6) Mandal Pahari. In (1) to (4) the State is direct owner, and the Zamindars have only a right to cultivate. In all of these cases however cultivating leases at a fixed rent have been given for the term of settlement, so the demand is not fluctuating.

The estate of Ballabgarh belongs to the Jagirdar, and as the *jagir* will be restored sooner or later the *kham* management must continue till then. Mandal Pahari, a small submerged area, is the only really *kham* estate.

81. In addition to the special difficulties above referred to, the absence of any reliable or attested records in the State caused a general difficulty in deciding disputes as to proprietary and occupancy rights and tenures of, and shares in, estates. The question of tenant-right

will be discussed in Chapter VIII. Mutation of names owing to death, desertion or transfers had never been attested, and hence the action taken to frame a complete and correct record-of-rights brought all the latent disputes to a head. These disputes were, as a rule, summarily disposed of by Deputy Collectors, and their decisions were recorded in registers specially prepared for the purpose, which now form part of the settlement record. The most important cases which required special investigation were decided in separate files by the Deputy Collector, who referred to me freely for instructions in cases of doubt, and appeals against their orders were heard by me. The following table shows the number of disputes decided summarily, the result of appeals, and the fees realised :—

Serial No.	NAMES OF TAHSILS.					CASES DECIDED.				APPEALED AGAINST				FEES ON SALES AND MORTGAGES.	
						Every kind of property dispute.	Sale.	Mortgage.	Cultivation.	Total.	Instituted.	Decided.		Total.	Realised.
												Accepted.	Rejected.		
1	Pahari	...	...	...	...	342	1	29	62	434	...	...	...	63	63
2	Kama	...	...	...	...	298	3	28	16	345	3	1	2	564	564
3	Dig	...	...	...	...	672	23	72	42	809	11	4	7	21	21
4	Kumher	...	...	...	...	458	12	110	...	580	6	1	5	4,955	4,659
5	Akheygarh	...	...	...	...	202	5	16	2	225	1	1	...	311	160
6	Nagar	...	...	...	...	512	4	98	141	755	3	...	3	1,326	374
7	Bharatpur	...	...	...	...	221	4	45	7	280	1	...	1	6,615	4,717
8	Raphas	...	...	...	...	189	5	73	19	280	3	1	7	7,942	914
9	Biyana	...	...	...	...	328	11	39	...	378	25	9	16	12,352	3,743
10	Wair	...	...	...	...	268	5	23	23	319	3	...	3	1,131	1,117
	Total	...	...	...	...	3,490	73	536	312	4,411	61	17	44	35,310	16,332

In the enquiry many cases of alienations by sale and mortgage were brought to light which had not been registered at the time and had not paid the fees of 10 per cent. on the consideration to the State. The rate of fees was reduced with the sanction of the Darbar from 10 to 5 per cent., and after all such cases had been disposed of a list was prepared showing the fees to be realised, and orders were issued to have these recovered through the tahsils. The total demand for these mutation fees is Rs. 35,310, of which Rs. 16,230 have been already realised. The rest will be realised within the present *rabi* or the coming agricultural year. The amounts were so heavy in several villages, especially of the Biyana tahsil, owing to the great number of mortgages among co-sharers, that it was found desirable to fix instalments spread over two years for their payment. It will be observed that out of 4,411 disputes disposed of summarily, only 61 were appealed against, of which 44 were rejected and only 17 accepted.

82. In addition to the disputes the following table gives similar details Disposal of regular cases. of cases disposed of by separate files :—

Serial No.	NAMES OF TAHSILS.	Details.	CASES DECIDED.											APPEALED AGAINST.			
			Proprietary right.	Occupancy right.	Partition.	Sales and mortgages.	Formation of chaks.	Management of abandoned lands.	Other cases.	Miscellaneous.	Kulliat.	Realisation of fee on sale and mortgage.	Total.	Instituted.	Decided.		
															Accepted.	Rejected.	Pending.
1	Pahari ...	Decided.	151	86	41	23	...	...	160	719	...	...	1,180	11	6	5	...
2	Kama ...	"	65	21	19	37	...	2	14	132	217	35	542	8	...	8	...
3	Dig ...	"	63	30	13	11	7	12	7	111	258	36	548	6	1	5	...
4	Kumher ...	"	78	20	4	79	33	47	16	141	214	35	667	8	...	8	...
5	Akheygarh ...	"	66	3	4	11	1	42	46	122	54	29	378	30	1	2	...
6	Nagar ...	"	131	82	49	5	1	...	125	975	...	...	1,368	13	3	10	...
7	Bharatpur ...	"	125	11	14	31	69	20	95	585	...	...	650	15	9	4	2
8	Rupbas ...	"	170	36	30	72	20	8	148	455	...	...	939	15	4	10	1
9	Biyana ...	"	119	22	30	24	2	6	194	535	601	...	1,533	9	1	6	2
10	Wair ...	"	55	3	4	6	14	148	7	104	151	61	553	4	2	2	...
Total ...		Decided	1,023	314	208	209	147	285	512	3,579	1,495	196	8,658	92	27	60	5
		Pending	9	3	53	5	5	...	8	35	5	...	414	...	...	...	...

These cases, as a rule, involved important issues relating to tenures of estates, proprietary rights in whole estates, or disputes as to the property between Zamindars and Mafidars of revenue-free estates, cases of partition, and complicated claims for occupancy rights, etc. As an example of the labour involved in disposing of some of them, I may instance the case of Pathena in Tahsil Akheygarh. The history of this old and bitter dispute between the State and the Mafidar, which had been pending for the last thirteen years, is given in para. 57 of my Report on the Central Tahsils. It involved the confiscation or restoration of the *masi* and proprietary rights of several hundred shareholders in an area of about 9,000 *bighas* and the disposal of arrears amounting to about Rs. 20,000. In the investigation 327 old records were consulted; and I am happy to say that, thanks largely to the tact and judgment of M. Hira Singh, it was finally decided without any friction, to the great satisfaction of the Darbar and of the Mafidars. Out of 8,658 cases disposed of by regular suit, only 92 were appealed against, of which 29 appeals were accepted and 63 rejected. Of the 414 cases shown as pending on 15th February, many have since been disposed of. The balance consists chiefly of realisation of fees and partition cases instituted after the new records were completed. These will be disposed of by the Revenue Deputy Collectors.

83. In order to maintain an accurate record after the settlement, it is essential that all changes of proprietary and occupancy rights should be brought to light, and after necessary enquiry, given effect to in the annual records. Hence as the new records of each tahsil were completed mutation registers were opened for the record of such changes and rules laid down for the disposal of the cases by the different classes of Revenue officers. The system is working well, but will require careful watching till it has taken firm root. The following table shows the number of mutation cases decided by Sadar Munsarims and Deputy Collectors after completion of the new records in the northern and central tahsils and the fees realized;—

Mutations.

Serial No.	NAMES OF TAHSILS.	CASES DECIDED.						FEES TO BE REALISED ON SALES AND MORTGAGES.	
		Cases of inheritance.	Cases of partition.	Sales.	Mortgages.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Total fees.	Realised.
1	Pahari	79	...	...	...	...	79	20	...
2	Kama	471	5	1	60	42	579	124	63
3	Dig	496	...	2	1	...	499	125	38
4	Kumher ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Akheygarh	144	...	4	...	16	164	38	5
6	Nagar	298	...	...	...	...	298	75	...
7	Bharatpur	143	3	3	5	23	177	37	...
8	Rupbas... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Biyana ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	Wair	31	...	1	...	...	32	8	...
	Total	1,662	8	11	66	81	1,828	427	106

The cases are chiefly simple ones of inheritance. The rules recently issued by the State to restrict alienations—which will be referred to in the next chapter—have considerably reduced cases of sale and gift.

The system followed in mutation cases is that in force in the Panjab. The original form is in Urdu; the Patwari has a register in Hindi; orders are passed by the attestation officers on the original form, which is then sent to the tahsil for record; and an abstract of the order is made by the Patwari in his register and given effect to in the annual papers.

84. In the course of the settlement and at its close the following state-
Documents to be made over to Council. ments, registers, and reports have been made over to the State Council and Revenue Office:—

(1). Settlement records of each estate *khalsa* and *mafi*, including the documents mentioned in para. 77. These have been well bound in leather, and arranged in the record-room by tahsils in topographical order.

(2). The incomplete maps and records prepared in previous settlements, which have been bound in one volume for each village and placed with the preceding.

(3). Other papers, original *chithas*, or rough copies prepared on the ground at the present settlement.

(4). Lists of State lands showing the area and the departments in charge.

(5). Statement of the old and new *jama*, by tahsils and estates.

(6). Statement of arrears to be realised and to be remitted for *khalsa* villages, showing the instalments fixed in case of realisations.

(7). Similar statement of arrears due from *Mafidars*.

(8). *Kistbandi* of the new *jama* showing *jama*, cesses, etc., and the *kharif* and *rabi* instalments.

(9). Statement B by tahsils, summarising the statistics and assessment data of each estate, and containing my original order giving reasons for fixing the new *jama* and disposing of the arrears of each village.

(10). Village note-books bound in volumes by tahsils, which embody all the information available as to area, wells, cultivation, rents, population, ploughs, cattle, and realisation of revenue from the summary settlement up to date, and contain a detailed account of the village resources written by the Deputy

Collectors, and a copy of my order of assessment. Further explanation of this important document is given in the next paragraph.

(11). Copies of my printed assessment and final reports and the original reports of the Deputy Collectors and Mr. Pyster regarding their tahsils.

(12). List of instructions issued during the settlement.

(13). Copies of the Patwari and Kanungo Rules and of the new Revenue Manual (under preparation.)

(14). Copies of the *Mafi* Registers (to be prepared when the enquiry is completed).

84A. The original Statement B, with manuscript and printed copies of the assessment and final reports, will be made over to the Agency office, together with all English correspondence relating to the settlement. They should be kept separate so as to be readily available at next settlement.

The village note-book contains the following information :—

(A) Statistics—

I.—*Milan Rakba* or statement of areas, showing details of area at the last and present settlements.

II.—*Jinswar* or crop statement, showing the crop grown at last settlement, in the 5 years preceding the present settlement, and in the year of settlement.

III.—*Jama Wasil Baki*, showing the demand, realisations, and balances of the various settlements since 1855.

IV.—Showing sales and mortgages from 1855 up to the settlement of 1890-91 and from 1890-91 up to date.

V.—Statement of cultivating occupancy, showing area cultivated by owners and the various classes of tenants in the present settlement.

VI.—Statement of rents, showing the area held and the total and average rents paid by the various classes of tenants on different classes of soil in the present settlement.

VII.—Statement of tenures, showing the number of estates held by the different tribes, with details of area and *jama* in the present settlement.

VIII.—Statement showing population, houses, carts, ploughs, and cattle in 1890-91 and the present settlement.

IX.—Statement showing details of wells and well areas in 1890-91 and present settlement.

(B) *Halat Dehi* or general account of the village with special reference to assessment prepared by the Deputy Collectors after personal inspection of the village.

(C) Assessment remarks by Settlement Commissioner based on the above statistics and his personal inspection.

(D) Abstract of method adopted for distributing the new *jama*.

These note-books should remain in the custody of the Deputy Collectors so as to be always available for reference.

85. Hitherto the system of record has been anything but satisfactory.

Record-room. There were several record-rooms lying at a great distance from one another and from the various State offices. The records and record-rooms of the Inam Department and those of the *Punarth* or

Mafi Department were separate from one another and from those of the Revenue Department. No attempt had ever been made to weed out or arrange them, and no proper registers were maintained. Hence when any file was called for, there was great difficulty and delay in getting at it, and frequently it could not be traced at all. No rules existed for destroying the old and unnecessary papers. Hence the records increased to unwieldy dimensions, through the tortuous mazes of which it was almost impossible to follow out the point in dispute to a clear issue. The whole system was chaotic, and caused not only inconvenience to all departments, but frequently grave injustice as well.

The State has now decided upon and begun the task of a radical reform. The Settlement office, which is commodious and conveniently situated outside the Mattra gate, has been converted by the Public Works Department into a splendid record-room. All the revenue records from the different offices have been brought together, and are now being arranged in separate *bastas* for each village. For convenience of reference each village bundle is divided into three sections, relating to—

- (a) Settlement cases ;
- (b) *Inam* and *mafi* cases ;
- (c) Other revenue cases.

Rules have also been issued for the destruction of old and unnecessary papers; and this work is proceeding *pari passu* with the re-arrangement of the records. The bound settlement records have been neatly arranged by tahsils in a separate section of the same building under the care of the Record-keeper. The arrangement will enormously facilitate work and secure proper custody of the records now prepared with such expenditure of time and labour.

86, In Bharatpur it has hitherto been the custom that all litigation relating to rights in land, excluding tenancy cases and claim Arrangements for future disposal of land cases, for specific relief, were disposed of by the Civil Courts. This would be unobjectionable did the State possess the adequate machinery. My experience of the actual working of the system was that the Nazims who dealt with the cases in the first instance or on appeal from the Tahsildars, and the Civil Judge who disposed of appeals from the Nazims, owing to their ignorance of the revenue system—an ignorance not unnatural under the circumstances—were not the proper agency for the work. In nearly every case that came before me the most simple issue had been complicated by unnecessary enquiries into side issues; the investigation was needlessly protracted to the great inconvenience of the parties and their witnesses; and when a decision was given, it had no finality, as none of the courts was in a position to secure a real grasp of the facts. Hence the Nazim's order was appealed to the Civil Judge, who frequently reversed it, or directed a new enquiry; the Judge's order was appealed to the Dewan and the Council, with the result that the issues which should have been fixed at the start were often fixed for the first time by the final court of appeal, and the whole enquiry had to begin all over again. I therefore suggested that the proper agency for disposing of the litigation relating to land was that of the Deputy Collectors. There are now two qualified men who having worked throughout the settlement, have an intimate local knowledge of the State and of revenue conditions. They control the Tahsildars, Kanungos, Patwaris, and the land-revenue agency generally, through which such cases must usually be investigated; they have direct access to the settlement and annual records, which have been and will be prepared under their supervision; they are or should be continually on tour in their respective circles, and therefore in a position to take up the cases locally, thereby securing a more thorough enquiry and a more speedy decision. These views commended themselves to the State administration, and all litigation relating to rights in land has now been withdrawn from the Civil and made over to the Revenue Courts. The system will, I am sure, work well; and I have here recorded the reasons for the change, as it is possible that attempts may be made hereafter to revert to the old arrangement.

CHAPTER IV.

PRINCIPLES OF ASSESSMENT.

87. The nature of past re-assessments of the State and the manner in which they were carried out have been explained in Preliminary enquiry as to the re-assessment. Chapter II. After receiving Mr. Colvin's preliminary note of March 1896, the Government of India, in their letter No. 1949-I. A., dated 17th June 1896, called for further information as to the nature of the settlement operations to be conducted and the lines on which it was proposed to work, adding :—

“Your report should also explain the nature of the existing assessments in both States and whether a re-assessment is to be made. If so, is the demand to be merely redistributed, or is it to be revised ; and if so, on what basis ? These matters are always decided before settlement operations are undertaken in a British province, and even then a general forecast of the results of re-assessment is prepared for each district before work is begun. The same course should be followed on the present occasion. Mr. Colvin will probably require some practical experience of both States before he can usefully advise on these questions ; but the general nature of the operations should be settled before any new measures are undertaken, and the basis and anticipated results of the re-assessment (if any) should be dealt with in a supplementary report before he commences the work of assessment.”

The Agent to the Governor-General, in asking the Political Agent for information on the points raised, further enquired whether the existing demand was believed to be fair, excessive, or deficient, and whether the settlement was made with a Zamindar, a Patel, or Mustajir, or directly with the cultivators. The Political Agent in reply explained that the existing assessment had been made by a committee, who, without leaving the city, assessed each village at a lump sum, leaving the distribution of each individual's rental to the Lambardars of the village ; and of course it goes without saying that a fresh assessment is absolutely necessary.

He offered no further opinion as to the pitch of the existing assessment, and left it to Mr. Colvin to furnish a forecast of the probable results of re-assessment. In their letter of 5th January 1897, the Government of India laid down the principles quoted in Chapter III, as regards the agency by which the settlement should be carried out, but made no reference to the re-assessment, beyond remarking that the forecast was still awaited. My predecessor was unable to furnish it before his transfer to the post of Political Agent, Eastern States, in April 1897. In para. 18 of the Introduction to the Report on the Northern Tahsils I referred to this and kindred subjects, and estimated that there would be considerable enhancement in the northern and a slight enhancement in the central tahsils, but that the latter would be more than outweighed by the reduction that would probably be found necessary in the southern tahsils, which I had not seen at the time, but understood to be in a very depressed condition.

88. The respective rights of the State, the village communities, and the cultivation in the land and its produce, had never been clearly defined in Bharatpur, and such definition was essential to clear the ground for the assessment. The views which influenced me in this matter, and which were eventually accepted by all parties, are given in paras. 31—38 of the Introduction to the Report on the Northern Tahsils, and as the points there discussed go to the root of the settlement, I take the liberty of reproducing them briefly here :—

“31. At the outset we were confronted with the fundamental question, what is the status of the Zamindars ? Is there in each estate a proprietary body as separate from the cultivators ? If so, in what do their proprietary rights consist, and how do they differ from ordinary cultivators in their relation to the land and the State ? The State Revenue Officers, relying

Discussion of the principles of re-assessment :

The status of the Zamindars in relation to other cultivators.

Status of the Zamindars in relation to other cultivators.

on the fact that all cultivators—both the so-called proprietors and others—usually contribute equally to the State demand, contended that the distinction between proprietors and other cultivators, if it had ever existed, had now ceased to exist, and were of opinion that all actual cultivators should now be regarded as tenants on the same level, holding direct from the State, and that a ryotwari settlement should be made direct with them all, whether they were the reputed hereditary proprietors or not; each cultivator to have fixity of tenure as long as he paid the State demand, and the land to pass to his heirs by the usual rules of succession, but not to be alienable by sale or mortgage, etc.

“This, it was urged, by permanently fixing in the soil all existing cultivators, would promote agriculture, hasten the breaking up of waste or abandoned lands, and thus be beneficial to the State and the great body of agriculturists. These arguments are no doubt specious, but both Mr. Colvin and myself agreed in rejecting them.

“The main fact on which they are based, *viz.*—that all contribute equally to the Government demand—is a temporary and accidental one, due partly to the State demand being so heavy as to absorb all the profits of cultivation and partly to the forbearance of the owners. It is by no means universal even in Bharatpur, where, as will be shown further on, many owners admittedly take profit rents from their cultivators, and many more do so, but conceal the fact. This phenomenon is not confined to Bharatpur. It is common in Alwar, where proprietary rights have long been admitted, and at last settlement was very common in the adjoining British districts of Gurgaon. In a backward state of agriculture it is usually met with.

“To infer from a temporary equality of revenue liability, a permanent equality of status is a deduction illogical and unreasonable. On the other hand, there are most convincing reasons to show that there is a proprietary body distinct from, and superior to, the ordinary cultivators. The northern tahsils of Bharatpur, like most of Gurgaon and half of Alwar, lies in the Mewat or country of the Meos, who had held the land for hundreds of years before they came under the sway of Bharatpur, Alwar or of the British Government. The existing villages were founded by them, the existing cultivators or their ancestors were settled by them, and it is they, and not the cultivators, who are primarily responsible for the payment of the State demand, though, for convenience, this may be distributed on all alike. Such Zamindars are known in Rajputana as “Bhumiyas” or hereditary owners of the soil. To refuse the Meos of Bharatpur a right which has grown by prescription, and has long been conceded to their brethren in Gurgaon, Alwar, and Mattra, would at once create a blaze of discontent. The same argument applies with even greater force in the case of the next great land-holding tribe—the Jats. These are notoriously democratic, and proudly style themselves the “brothers and sons” of the Maharajas or ruling family. The lands they hold have either been in their possession for generations or were won with their swords in the last century, and this fact was recognised by the earlier rulers of the State—Churaman, Suraj Mal, and Badan Singh—by the remission of all or three-fourths of the State demand to them on condition of military service. In fact, their lands are held on a species of feudal tenure from the Rāj.

“To treat them now as having the same status as their Chamar and Mali tenants would be a grievous injustice and would set the State in a blaze. Furthermore, the original proprietors, by whom I imply the founders of the village or their successors in interest by hereditary descent, transfer or force, even where they pay the *jama* at the same rates as the cultivators, have in other respects an admittedly superior status. This is recognised in their receiving marriage (*dhool dhaunka*) and other fees from non-owners, in their levying *malba* for village expenses, and in certain selected members or all of them receiving from the State a percentage on the revenue they pay in—which is known as *hakk mukaddami*. The non-owning cultivators would never dream of claiming an equal status with them in these respects. At the most their claim would be as hereditary tenants of long standing to enjoy the *privilege* of paying at the same rates as the owners, and this matter has been taken cognisance of, and will be discussed in connection with the tenancy question. For the above and other reasons, which need not be adduced, it has been decided that in each estate there is a proprietary body having a position distinct from, and superior to, that of the ordinary cultivators.”

89. The next question was to determine the relation between that proprietary body and the State. In paras. 32–36 of the Introduction already referred to, it is shown that the question of the relative rights of the Rāj and the Zamindars in the soil was put directly in issue at the summary settlement, and was the subject of acute controversy between the Political Agent and the Agent to the Governor-General, Sir H. Lawrence; that the latter insisted that the Zamindars possessed a proprietary or sub-proprietary status, and were entitled to a share in the profits of the estate varying from 30 to 50 per cent., and were allowed this margin of profit by Captain Nixon; that the same principle was followed at least in theory, in the three years' and six years' settlements, made during the minority; that the late Maharaja, when he came into his powers, made no attempt to attack the status of the Zamindars, though he considerably enhanced their

Status of the Zamindars
or relation to the State.

The absence of any report as to the previous assessments—none of which since Sir Henry Lawrence's Summary Settlement of 1855-57 was made on any system—has made the re-assessment in Bharatpur much more difficult than in Alwar, where there is the carefully made regular settlement of 1872-76 as a standard of comparison. Here, as in Alwar, my work has however been much facilitated by the two Deputy Collectors and Mr. Pyster furnishing me with assessment reports for their tahsils. These have been prepared after an exemplar which I gave them, and supplemented by my own observations and the rather scanty information which I have been able to glean from the files in the Agency office they furnish the basis of the three assessment reports.

95. The settlements of Alwar and Bharatpur were carried out by me currently and, at least as regards assessment, on exactly the same lines. It will therefore save time if I quote from the Alwar Final Report to explain the methods adopted for calculating the new assessment. The remarks apply to Bharatpur *mutatis mutandis*.

“130. It has already been noticed that the land-revenue system in Alwar is practically the same as in the south Punjab—the village communities, as a rule, being strong and cohesive bodies, generally cultivating most of the land themselves, bound together by the ties of common descent, or community of tribe, clan, or caste, and still retaining, even after the common lands have disappeared owing to partition or by length of separate possession, the principles of community of interests and joint responsibility. Under these circumstances it was natural and proper that the settlement should follow the Punjab lines; and the absence of competition cash rents to form a basis for the re-assessment made it necessary, as suggested by the Government of India, to adopt the Punjab system of calculating the net assets from a valuation of the produce.”

96. The different estimates employed as a guide to the new assessment (see Chapter IX of the Assessment Reports) were obtained for each tahsil as follows :—

- (A) By applying the all-round or average rates on cultivation by the final demand of last settlement to the present calculated area. (Chapter VIII of the Assessment Reports.)
- (B) Applying the actual soil rates of last settlement to the present area. (Chapter VII of the Assessment Reports.)
- (C and D) By increasing (A) and (B) above in proportion to the increase in prices since last settlement. (Chapter IV of the Assessment Reports.)
- (E) By taking one-fourth of the value of the gross produce of the crops in (a) the year of attestation; (b) the average of the previous 5 or 6 years to represent the State share. (Chapter V of the Assessment Reports.)
- (F) By calculating the value of the owner's share of the produce, *i.e.*, net assets in—
 - (a) the year of attestation;
 - (b) the average of the previous 5 years,
 and taking two-thirds of this as the State share. (Chapter VI of the Assessment Reports.)
- (G) By calculating the net assets according to the average of the total cash rents as recorded at time of attestation, and taking the State share as two-thirds. (Chapter VII of the Assessment Reports.)
- (H) By calculating the net assets according to the corrected or assumed competitive cash rents and taking the State share as two-thirds.
- (I) As in (H), but making deductions for *istamrari*, *chauthdal* and other favourable assessments.

(J) By all-round rates of the three years' settlement. (Chapter II of the Assessment Reports.)

(K) By all-round rates of ten years' settlement. (Chapter II of the Assessment Reports.)

In Chapter IX of each of my Assessment Reports I have summed the results generally of each of these estimates, discussed their relative values as a guide to the new assessment, and given my reasons for making the latter appropriate to one or the other.

97. To begin with, (J) and (K)—based on the application to the present areas of the average rates of the 3 and 10 years' settlements—
Relative utility of these estimates. are only of historical interest, as these assessments were only rough compromises based not on areas, but on the average payments of previous years, and were meant only to bridge over the interval till a regular settlement on proper lines could be made. The estimates (A) to (D) are founded on the average and soil rates of last settlement, adding for (C) and (D) the enhancement in prices ascertained in Chapter IV of the Assessment Reports. However useful they may be for purposes of comparison, they start with the assumption that the rates of last settlement were just and equally pitched in all tahsils, and my remarks in Chapter II show that in my opinion this was far from being the case. The estimate (D), obtained by applying the soil rates of last settlement and enhancing the result by the whole extent to which prices have since risen, represent, in my opinion, the *limit* of assessment which could not be approximated to without risk of over-assessment, for those rates rarely represented less than a full two-thirds of net assets, and the Zamindar's income from the land has not risen to the same extent as prices owing to a corresponding increase in the cost of production, *i.e.*, cost of wells, bullocks, etc.

The estimate (E)—one-fourth of the value of the produce—was useful for purposes of comparison, as that was the standard adopted by Major Powlett, but it is an unscientific method of calculation, as it assumes that the owner's share is the same in all tahsils, and hence works out too low in tahsils Thana Ghazi, where the owner's share is higher than the average. On the whole however it agreed very closely with (F)—two-thirds of the owner's share—which in most tahsils was $\frac{2}{5}$ of the *chahi* and $\frac{4}{12}$ of the other crops (the owner's share where rents are taken in kind usually being $\frac{1}{3}$ in *chahi* and $\frac{2}{5}$ in other lands), both of which vary only slightly, from one-fourth.

(G) The estimate based on the application to the different classes of soil of the arithmetical average of the cash rents for each class as recorded at time of attestation would have been a reliable method of calculation, provided—

- (1) the recorded rents were genuine and representative;
- (2) were fully competitive;

but, for reasons explained in Chapter VII of my reports, neither of these conditions was fulfilled.

98. Owing to the stupid policy of the State in the past, there was an almost universal impression among the people that it was fraudulent to realise profit rents, *i.e.*, in excess of the State demand from tenants,—and when such rents were realised they were concealed. The knowledge that a settlement was impending or in progress encouraged this tendency. Moreover, even in the cases where the recorded rents were genuine they were often not competitive but privileged, as in the cases of (1) owners cultivating one another's holdings by way of temporary exchange; (2) relations of owners or old tenants who have been long settled in the estate, and though not recorded as occupancy tenants, have acquired by prescription the privilege to hold at lenient rates; (3) tenants who hold inferior land and, pay for it at the same rate as owners do for the land in their own occupation; (4) village menials who are allowed to cultivate at favourable rates as a partial remuneration for the services rendered to the owners.

99. The *khatauni* rents therefore, if accepted without discrimination, would have been very misleading as a guide to assessment, and it became necessary either (1) to correct them, as is done in the settlements of the North-Western Provinces, by eliminating non-competitive or doubtful rents, or (2) to supplement them by taking the results of certain specimen villages in each tahsil where special efforts were made to ascertain the rents actually paid. The latter was the method I generally adopted, and in several tahsils sufficient data were forthcoming on which to calculate the average of competitive cash rents. In the remaining tahsils the results were not so satisfactory, and the assumed cash rents were of a rather speculative character.

On the whole however the estimate thus arrived at, in so far as it was based on actual rents in specimen villages—often calculated on a very large proportion of the total area paying cash rents—was one of the most practical and reliable that could be arrived at.

Method of ascertaining the value of the produce in an average year.

100. The most useful of the estimates founded on theoretical data was (F), which was arrived at by—

- (1) taking the total area of crops sown in the year of attestation, which for nine out of the twelve tahsils was—1897-98—a good average year;
- (2) deducting a certain proportion of the area sown on account of failure of crops and of crops cut for fodder of cattle employed in agriculture according to the circumstances of each tahsil;
- (3) working out average rates of yield for the rest of the crop area according to the results of actual experiment and local enquiry after comparison with the results arrived at in adjoining districts of the Punjab;
- (4) converting the total outturns as thus ascertained into cash according to the scale of prices fixed for each tahsil, and by fixing rates per *bigha* for the *zabli* crops, such as tobacco, sugar-cane, vegetables, etc.;
- (5) having thus ascertained the total value of the produce in an average year, it was easy to determine the owner's share or total net assets by applying to the total values the fraction—generally $\frac{1}{3}$ on *chahi* and $\frac{1}{4}$ on other soils—which represented the actual or conventional share which the owner received from the cultivator;
- (6) the State share was arrived at by taking two-thirds of the owner's share or net-assets, due allowance being made in tahsils where the State took less than two-thirds from estates or holdings of Rajputs and other privileged classes.

101. In Chapter IV of the Assessment Reports I have described the methods taken for arriving at the scale of prices to be adopted

Prices.

(1) to calculate the total value of the produce and thus deduce the value of the State share; (2) to estimate the extent to which prices have risen since the assessment of 1890-91, and how far this rise may be taken into consideration as a reason for enhancing the demand. The retail or *bazar* prices for the ten years prior to and all the years subsequent to the 1890 settlement have been obtained from the registers of weekly prices kept in the tahsils and for Bharatpur from the *thani* or register of *bazar* prices maintained in the *Kotwali*. Similarly, the harvest prices which the Zamindars obtain for the grain have been ascertained for the same two periods from the *bahis* or account-books of the grain-dealers at the chief trade-centres in the tahsils and from the *bachat* or records of wholesale prices kept up in the Bharatpur City *Kotwali*. The latter however represent wholesale prices all the year round in the town, and are therefore higher than the prices paid by grain-dealers to the agriculturists at harvest time in the villages.

From the data available after comparison with prices in adjoining States and districts, I fixed the following scale of commutation prices for the chief staples:—

Tahsil.	Bajra.	Jowar.	Mung, Moth, Masina.	Cotton	Til.	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Bejar, Gochui.	Oil-seed.
Northern ...	26	30	25	11	11	21	29	30	26	14
Kumher ...										
Alheygarh ...										
Nagar ...										
Bharatpur ...	25	29	24	...	10	20	27	28	25	13
Rupbas ...	26	30	25	...	11	21	30	30	28	14
Oochain ...										
Biyana ...	27	...	26	...	...	...	31	...	...	...
Wair ...										

The variations are due to differences in the facilities for access to markets and also to the predominance of one crop or another in different tracts. They have been explained in the assessment reports. Compared with the average harvest prices of the last few years, the rates assumed may appear at first sight unduly favourable to the Zamindars, but that period has been on the whole one of short harvests and high prices, and it is essential therefore to allow a considerable margin to cover fluctuations. Last year the prices of food grains at Bharatpur varied from 10 seers per rupee for wheat to 12½ seers for the coarser grains, but it cannot be argued that these famine-inflated prices are beneficial to the Zamindars, the great majority of whom in a year of scarcity have to live largely on their credit with the grain-dealer, from whom they borrowed at these excessive rates and whom they repay at the cheaper harvest rates. The above remarks were written in July 1900. How far they have been justified by the event will appear from the fact that since the *khariif* harvest was reaped *bajra* has been selling at Bharatpur at from 26 to 32 seers per rupee, and *jowar* even cheaper. When on tour in the remoter parts of Biyana in December last I found that *bajra* was unsaleable even at a *man* per rupee.

102. Comparing the average prices of the period preceding the last with those of the period preceding the present settlement, it appears that there has practically been no all-round enhancement, and similarly, if we compare the actual prices of recent years with those which are likely to prevail during the next twenty years, —i.e., the term of the new settlement,—we cannot reckon with confidence upon any increase. In fact, the probability is that with the return of more favourable seasons prices will in the future tend to fall below the average of the last few years. It follows therefore that we cannot look to an increase in prices as one of the factors enhancing the demand.

103. Having fixed the scale of prices, the next step was to determine average rates of yield of the different crops. I need not here repeat the account given in Chapter V of the Assessment Reports, showing how the results for each tahsil were arrived at. Throughout the settlement experiments were made systematically for each of the leading crops in each class of soil in which it was given. The Deputy Collectors and myself during our tours, while the harvest was standing, lost no opportunity of ascertaining the yield of average fields by experiment and enquiry.

In fixing the rates finally assumed, regard was paid chiefly to the experiments made in average plots by the Deputy Collectors and myself, also to the results arrived at in adjoining districts (such as Gurgaon) or States (such as Alwar), where similar agricultural conditions prevailed, and to the opinions of the Zamindars and local officials.

Crops—such as sugar-cane, indigo, *zira*, poppy, vegetables, condiments, and in some cases *nil* and tobacco—belonging to the class of garden cultivation, have been known since Akbar's time as *zabti* crops paying cash rates per *bigha*. The area under these crops is small, in no tahsil exceeding 4 per cent. of the total crop area, and as it would be extremely difficult to determine the outturn by experiment, I followed the traditional method of assuming cash values per *bigha* as explained in Chapter IV of the Assessment Reports. After all, when the basis of the State demand is a share of the total or of the owner's share of the produce, it becomes essential to endeavour to estimate the outturn and value thereof. I found personally that by maintaining the system of continual observation and enquiry, every year of settlement adds something to the knowledge acquired as to the yield of crops, and towards its close the Deputy Collectors and myself by mere observation of standing crops, at least in the *rabi*, were generally able to estimate the yield within a margin of 10 per cent. or so.

104. The crop statistics on which we have been working in Bharatpur require Deductions for failure of present only crops *sown*, and no attempt has hitherto been made to distinguish failed from harvested crops with a backward Patwari agency. I did not think it advisable to introduce such a distinction during the progress of settlement. The rates of yield assumed by me represent the average outturn of *harvested* crops over a series of years, but do not take account of the area of crops that yield no return beyond the seed having failed owing to (1) drought, (2) excessive rainfall, or (3) other calamities of season. Failure from drought is less common in Bharatpur than in Alwar, as the rainfall is heavier, while failure from excessive rain and swamping is more common, as much of the land is low lying and badly drained. After full discussion and consideration of the varying circumstances of each tahsil, I made the following allowances :—

TAHSIL.	PERCENTAGE OF		Total crops.
	Chahi crops.	Other crops.	
Gopalgarh	5	8	7
Pahari	3	8	7
Kama	4	9	8
Dig	4	10	8
Kumher	4	10	8
Akheygarh			
Nagar	4	10	9.5
Bharatpur	4	8	7.2
Rupbas	4	8	6
Oochain			
Biyana	4	10	9
Blusawar			
Total	4	9	8

The deduction varies from 6 to 9.5 per cent. of the crops sown, and for the whole State comes to 8 per cent.

To any one who, like myself, has observed the havoc wrought on the crops during the last three years by drought, floods, frost, locusts, high winds, dry winds, etc., this allowance will not seem excessive. It is meant only to cover the *ordinary* agricultural vicissitudes, and does not absolve the State from the duty of making large suspensions or remissions of revenue in the face of an overwhelming and widespread agricultural crisis like the famine of 1877-78 or the drought of the past two years.

105. A similar allowance had to be made on account of crops grown exclusively or partly for the fodder of cattle employed in agriculture, as these crops are not brought to the market, and in fact represent part of the cost of production. The deductions under this

head vary from one tahsil to another according to (1) the amount of natural pasture available; (2) the prevalence of well irrigation, for the maintenance of which a greater number of cattle is required. The crops grown for fodder purposes are *gawar* and *charri* exclusively, a considerable proportion of the root and *sarson* crops, and part of the *gawar*, *moth* and *masina*, and in some tahsils a little of the green barley (*khasil*) and grain.

The allowances represent the following percentages on the total crop area:—

Pahari	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.5
Kama	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.5
Dig	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Kunher	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.3
Akheygarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.9
Nagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.4
Bharatpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.6
Rupbas	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.5
Biyana	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Wair	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

For the whole State the deduction comes to about 6 per cent. of the crop area, but it is restricted to the less valuable crops.

106. The only deduction remaining to be noticed is that for menials' dues, which go to remunerate the *Turkhan*, *Zohar*, and *Chamar* for their services. I have, according to the local custom, allowed 2 seers per maund or 5 per cent. on this account.

106A. After making these deductions the total value of the crops grown in the year of attestation (1897-98 in the first nine tahsils, and 1898-99 in the last three) was determined by applying the commutation prices to the crop areas multiplied by the rates of yield and adding in the value of the miscellaneous crops, for which cash rates per *bigha* were assumed. As a check on this method the same calculation was applied to the crop areas (after making similar deductions) of the previous five years.

The results for each tahsil have been shown in detail in the Assessment Reports (Chapter V). Taking one-fourth of this to represent the State share as at last settlement, we arrived at one of the estimates of assessment based on the total value of the produce.

107. The statistics of cultivating occupancy by tahsils in Chapter III of the Assessment Reports, if summarised for the whole State, show that (1) owners themselves hold 43 per cent; (2) occupancy-tenants 8 per cent; (3) tenants holding free-of-rent (village menials, Brahmins, Purohits, Fakirs, etc.) 2 per cent; (4) tenants holding at favourable rents 1 per cent; while (5) the remaining 46 per cent. is cultivated by tenants-at-will on cash rent, of which 20 per cent pay at the same rate as owners, etc., and 26 per cent. at other rates.

The proportion cultivated by owners as such is high—43 per cent.; and if to this we add the area which owners cultivated as tenants in their own and other estates the total comes to nearly 50 per cent. or half of the total cultivation.

108. In the above abstract no mention has been made of rents in kind. The total area so held is insignificant—only 1,577 *bighas*. In several tahsils rents in kind are non-existent, and only in one—Bhusawar—does the area exceed 500 *bighas*. So far as they go they show that the owners' share of the crops is usually one-third in *chahi* lands, and two-fifths in *saireba* and *bareni*.

109. In previous reports it has been shown that the State share in Akbar's reign was fixed at one-third, and this tradition was maintained for some time after this tract fell away from the Empire. The old records show that one-third was maintained up to the summary settlement as the share of the produce of *chahi* land,—in which the expenses of production are highest,—but on other soils it was raised to two-fifths, and these proportions may safely be assumed to represent what the

owner would now take from the cultivator if rents were paid in kind. If, therefore, we take one-third of the value of the *chahi* crops and two-fifths of the value of other crops as already ascertained, the result will represent the owner's share, and two-thirds of this will represent the State share, which, as already settled, is now limited to two-thirds of the net assets.

Taking the owner's share as above ascertained to represent the net assets, the State demand at two-thirds of the assets is represented by two-ninths of the value of the *chahi* and four-fifteenths of the value of all other crops. The results have been worked out in Chapter VI of the Assessment Reports, and though based on a series of hypotheses they were found to be one of the most useful and reliable estimates available.

110. Applying the same method of calculation to each kind of soil, we can deduce (1) the total value of the produce, (2) the owner's share or net assets, *viz.*, one-third for *chahi* and two-fifths for other crops, (3) the State share at two-thirds of the owners' share; and dividing the result by the total area of cultivation in each class we arrive at (1) the value of the produce per *bigha*, (2) the value of the owners' share per *bigha* or rent-rate, (3) the value of the State share per *bigha* or revenue-rates, which, if applied, would bring out the State demand as above shown.

111. In spite of the fact that nearly half of the cultivated area is held by tenants-at-will paying cash rents, these rents, taken as a whole without discrimination, were of little use as a guide to the assessment. Even where the genuine rents were disclosed they were often non-competitive and did not represent the full letting value of the land. The reasons for this have been stated in the assessment reports and are equally operative in all tahsils. To some extent the lowness of the rents as compared with the *jama* is a genuine fact and is due to (1) the high pitch of the assessment; (2) the great agricultural depression that followed the famine of 1877-78 and re-appeared again during the last 5 years; (3) the desertion of owners and tenants, which resulted in large areas being left derelict or managed *khām*, which the owners or the State are glad to get taken up on very easy terms; (4) the want of competition for land owing to the extensive areas of waste and the comparative scarcity of tenants; (5) the past policy of the State in prohibiting or discouraging the owners from realising more than the State demand from the cultivators; (6) the recent drought has temporarily changed much land usually *chahi* into *barani*, and lowered the rents to a corresponding degree; (7) there has been a great increase in the *barani* cultivation within the last few years, and tenants who break up waste are allowed very lenient rents, generally 4 annas per *bigha* for the first few years.

Besides these genuine reasons for the lowness of rents, there is another explanation, *viz.*, that the full rents have not in many cases been recorded. Some notorious instances of this were brought to light in several villages in Rupbas. In one of these the owners realised at the rate of Rs. 2-8-0 per *bigha*, while in the *bachh* they showed the tenants as having paid only 8 annas per *bigha*. This was done with the connivance of the tahsils' officials, who shared in the profits. Again, in the more fertile tracts of Biyana, Rupbas, and Oochain, it is not uncommon for the owners to realise from 8 annas to Re. 1 per *bigha* as profit from the tenant at the time of giving him a lease to cultivate, while he is shown as paying only at "owner's rates" or even something less. Several of these cases came to my knowledge during my tours and increased my suspicions as the cash rents being so low as the recorded figures showed.

112. With a view to ascertain the true competitive cash rents special enquiries were made by the circle officers in selected and representative villages in which from one reason or another competitive rents were taken, and there was some probability of getting the correct figures. This special attestation was carried out with some success in Kama, Dig, Kumer, Bharatpur, Rupbas, Oochain, and Biyana, and the results and the conclusions derived from them have been described in Chapter VII of the Assessment Reports.

In the remaining tahsils either no separate enquiry was made, or the data were not sufficient to generalise upon. Over a large part of the State, therefore, the estimate based upon two-thirds of the cash rents would have resulted in a reduction of the old demand.

113. This is a problem with which nearly every Settlement Officer is confronted when dealing with village communities in which owners themselves work a large proportion of the area, and that generally the best. In my Alwar report I have shown that similar conditions exist in that State, though the revenue is generally lower, the people more prosperous, and owing to the dense population the demand for land greater than in Bharatpur. The three British districts adjoining Bharatpur are Gurgaon, Mattra, and Agra. They were assessed over twenty years ago, and their position then as regards the cash rents was much the same as that of Bharatpur now, as the following extracts from the Settlement Reports prove.

The Settlement Officer of Agra in proposing a demand higher than was justified by the recorded rents, the genuineness of which was apparently not open to doubt, wrote thus (para. 10, Settlement Report):—

“A detailed examination of the rent-rates of the estates has completely convinced me that as yet nothing like the full rent, which it is possible for a tenant to pay, is taken as a rule by the landlord. Competition has not taken the place of custom in determining the rent, and rack-renting is utterly unknown.”

The Settlement Officer of Gurgaon in paragraph 90 of his report says:—

“Hitherto the great majority of the tenants paying cash rents have been holding at customary privileged rents which had their origin in the days when the land was plenty and the cultivators were few. During the past few years however, and especially since the announcement of the new assessments, there has been a marked tendency on the part of the owners to insist on their right to receive larger rents.”

In the Fatehpur Sikri Tahsil, which adjoins and is very similar to Bharatpur, the actual average rental was even then Rs. 3-13-0 per acre, or Rs. 1-8-6 per Bharatpur *bigha*, while the actual recorded rate now in Bharatpur is only Rs. 1-3-9 per *bigha*.

Similarly, in reviewing the assessment of the Cis-Jamna Tahsils of Mattra, —adjoining Kama, Dig, Bharatpur and Kumher,—the Government of the North-Western Provinces wrote in 1880:—

“If a fixed and low rent be the highest good of a tenancy, the system sanctioned by tradition in these Cis-Jamna parganas secures it. The peculiarity is that the tenants in many of these *bhagachara* villages are not required to pay more than the share of the Government revenue and village expenses that is proportionate to the land held by them. They hold as it is termed at revenue rates. In these estates the bulk of the land is cultivated by the members of the brotherhood themselves. The surplus land alone is held by tenants; and as the only contribution required from cultivating proprietors by the village council is their quota of the land tax and other expenses, the custom grew up of dealing with any tenants there might be in the same way. The distinction between rent proper and revenue is thus obliterated or rather unknown in these *bhagachara* villages. Here the important point to observe is the salutary effect of this system of revenue rates in preventing, as Mr. Whiteway (Settlement Officer) says, any but the actual cultivator deriving any profit from the land.”

The difficulties with which I have been confronted in assessing these tahsils are exactly the same as those above described. A large portion of the land does not pay rent, being cultivated by the proprietors themselves. A further portion is held by privileged or leniently-assessed tenants paying little more than the State dues and village expenses. The proprietary bodies are numerous, and for the most part poor. They rely for subsistence less on rent than on the profits of their own cultivation. For the same reasons that in Chhata (Mattra) the Settlement Officer, though the standard of assessment was half-assets, fixed a revenue demand of Rs. 2,02,933 on a recorded rental of Rs. 3,07,419, and in Kosi a demand of Rs. 1,67,040 on a recorded rental of Rs. 2,10,495,—thus taking

nearly 80 per cent. of the recorded rental,—I have been compelled in some of these tahsils, in order to fix a demand representing two-thirds of the net assets, to swallow up nearly the whole recorded rental. I have however the advantage, which the North-Western Provinces Settlement Officers had not, of checking my calculation with reference to the estimated value of the produce and the net assets derived from it.

The rents now recorded, where they are not wilfully understated, are non-competitive and do not represent the full letting value of the land. The increase of assessment in the adjoining British districts caused an almost immediate rise in cash rents, though those were already higher than rents now are on land of the same quality in Bharatpur, and the low rate of cash rents is therefore not in itself a sufficient reason against enhancing the demand if such enhancement is justified by other grounds.

114. It must be borne in mind that the demand brought out by the Other assets taken account of in the assessment. above calculations is only on the cultivated area, and includes nothing for the culturable (new fallow and *banjar*) and unculturable land, the profits from which in the shape of grass, wood, *ghi*, and charcoal are considerable, at least in the central and southern tahsils. New fallow (*jadid*) is in practice always assessed by the Zamindars in the annual *bachh*, but generally at a rate lower than that on the lowest class of *barani*. Under the improved revenue system this land will soon be reclaimed (much of it already has been), and there was no reason for excluding it from the assessment.

I therefore fixed a rate of 8 annas per *bigha* in the three northern tahsils of Gopalgarh, Kama, and Pahari, where the *banjar* area being small was left unassessed, and of 4 annas per *bigha* in the remaining tahsils, in all of which (except Dig and Bhusawar) the *banjar* was assessed at a half or one anna per *bigha*.

115. More than this was however required in order to Special measures adopted for leasing surplus waste. secure the speedy cultivation of the large areas of excellent waste land in the central and southern tahsils.

In all tahsils except Pahari and Kama, but especially in Kumber, Bharatpur, Rupbas, and Wair, there were enormous tracts of land fit for, but left out of cultivation. This was due no doubt partly to causes beyond the Zamindars' control—Banganga inundations and ravages of the wild cattle in the past, depopulation, bad revenue administration, &c., &c.

These were however aggravated by the fact that the Zamindars were unable or unwilling to break up the waste—unwilling because a large proportion of them were Gujars, who live chiefly by their cattle and had a double object in keeping the land waste, as it provided them with excellent pasture and they paid little or nothing for it as waste; unable because most of these communities were weak in hands and had neither the labour nor the energy for the task.

The land in Bharatpur is according to the principles now accepted primarily the property of the State, but the Zamindars have a subordinate proprietary right as long as they maintain the cultivation, manage the estate properly, and pay the State demand punctually. Where, as in the case of those villages, the Zamindars from want of the will or the means are found to be incapable of discharging these obligations, the State, as superior owner, is entitled to step in and make such arrangements as it considers best to safeguard its own interests. Hitherto the State has exercised that right of interference by making the estate *kham*. That system has however proved disastrous to the people and the State revenues, and it was necessary to devise some more effective method.

116. Taking as a guide the principle embodied in section 60 of the Punjab Land Revenue Act, which empowers the Revenue authorities, where an estate has an area of waste land exceeding its requirements, to make separate assessment of such excess and offer it to the owners of that estate or to outsiders, I proposed in the case of the estates in Bharatpur, where there was such excess waste, (1) that the existing owners should be left for pasturage and future extension of cultivation an area of waste land approximately equal to that at present cultivated; (2) that the surplus be marked off as a separate *chakk*, in one compact block as far as

Proposals now made for the grant of leases on favourable terms.

possible, and leased for the term of settlement (the proprietary right being granted at once or withheld for a time according to circumstances), not as rule to the owners of the estate (whose incapacity was already established), but to the Zamindars of other villages, priority being given to residents of the State; (3) that as an act of grace and to satisfy any objections on the part of the old owners, the State should give them an allowance of Rs. 3-2-0 per cent. or half an auna per rupee on the assessment of the newly formed *chakk*, this being the equivalent of the *hakk mokaddami* or *lamhardari* allowance, which is the only profit they would usually have derived from the land hitherto, had they cultivated it through tenants; (4) that, in order to encourage agriculturists to come forward and take up these lands for cultivation, they should be given specially favourable terms as regards the rates of the land-revenue and water-rates, *viz.* :—

1st year 4 annas per *bigha*; 2nd year 6 annas per *bigha*; 3rd year 8 annas per *bigha*;

till the expiry of the settlement, the rate to be calculated on the total culturable area allotted, whether cultivated or not,

These proposals were primarily put forward for the Bharatpur tahsil, where the evil was greatest, but were afterwards extended to the other tahsils as well, with some modifications of the final rate, which in some tahsils is 10 or 12 annas per *bigha*, and in a few special cases Re. 1. Cesses are charged over and above at the usual rates, and water-rates in case of irrigation.

117. The Darbar accepted the proposals, and at the same time made over several *runds* or grazing preserves, from which there was little income or profit to the State, to be similarly dealt with. The conditions were at once notified all over the State and in adjoining territory, and the favourable terms offered attracted numerous applications from agriculturists all over the State, as well as from Agra, Mattra, and Alwar. A separate file was then prepared for each case, applications received and enquired into, security taken where necessary, extracts from the settlement maps and *khasra* showing the lands allotted were attached to the file, and when the case was ripe for disposal it was submitted to me for sanction to the terms, etc.

The disposal of these cases was a serious addition to our work, especially as in the beginning lessees of the wrong stamp, speculators, and non-cultivators were often selected, and after a year's trial it became necessary to cancel the conditional lease and make new arrangements. The drought of 1898-99 and 1899-1900 also discouraged the lessees and retarded the disposal of the cases. These initial difficulties have however now been overcome. The favourable rains of the present year have given a great stimulus to cultivation. Many of the lessees have already broken up most of their grants, and this year, owing to the low initial rates, will reap considerable profits.

118. The attached table shows the area leased and the number of leases in each tahsil, the annual demand from *Sambat* 1956 = 1899-1900 to *Sambat* 1961 = 1904-1905, when the final demand will be reached, the areas already brought under cultivation and still to be allotted.

Out of 87,818 *bighas*, 82,483 have been already allotted; the initial demand in *Sambat* 1956 was Rs. 12,156, of which Rs. 10,852 has been realised and rises progressively to Rs. 46,269.

No less than 19,932 *bighas* have already been broken up, nearly all within the last year. I may add that where the original owners were able to satisfy me that they could arrange to break up the land or a substantial portion of it within a reasonable time, and otherwise comply with the terms of the lease, I gave them the preference, and where the lease was given to outsiders the original owners will receive from the State the *hakk mokaddami* or *lamhardari* allowance, but in order to encourage the lessees a similar allowance will be given to them.

Table showing new chakks formed with jama and area.

Serial No.	Name of Tahsil.	Number of vil- lages in which chakks have been leased.	Number of chakks.	AREA ALLOTTED.						JAMA NOW FIXED.						Realised in Sambat 1956 from jama.	AREA BROUGHT UNDER CULTIVATION AFTER GIVING CHAKKS ON LEASE.				Area to be managed.	
				Chahi.	Sairabi.	Barani.	New tal- low.	Old tal- low.	Uncul- turable.	Total.	Sambat 1956.	Sambat 1957.	Sambat 1958.	Sambat 1959.	Sambat 1960.		Sambat 1961.	Chahi.	Sairabi.	Barani.		Total.
1	Pakari	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	Kama	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	Dig	..	4	..	..	..	..	3,697	580	4,277	305	1,085	1,501	2,173	2,604	2,755	148	..	..	643	643	..
4	Kumber	..	21	..	..	25	..	12,487	..	12,512	2,052	3,825	5,412	7,718	8,219	8,607	1,659	..	..	1,923	1,958	2,301
5	Akhoygarh	..	1	11	20	45	92	1,308	21	1,500	..	370	555	739	816	816	..	20	..	639	608	..
6	Nagar	..	1	..	..	..	330	2,451	43	2,824	1,042	1,390	2,085	2,085	2,085	2,085	1,042	..	..	468	468	..
7	Bharatpur	..	44	..	471	88	3	31,624	457	32,606	8,767	11,457	15,572	17,097	17,580	17,580	8,003	843	1,830	7,730	10,403	2,033
8	Rupbas	..	16	26	7	170	299	12,624	608	13,634	..	2,555	3,617	5,088	5,816	5,816	..	125	318	2,293	2,736	..
9	Biynua	..	3	4	..	136	316	2,183	93	2,762	..	435	953	1,353	1,504	1,652	..	133	15	1,145	1,293	1,001
10	Wair	..	10	97	711	219	109	10,830	402	12,368	..	4,288	4,641	5,764	6,764	6,898	..	143	678	912	1,763	..
Total		..	100	128	141	1,172	683	77,201	2,104	82,483	12,156	25,465	34,426	42,017	44,538	46,260	10,852	1,308	2,811	15,783	19,932	5,335

119. In fixing the new assessment it was necessary to take account not only of the old demand and the two general cesses—*viz.*, Patwar cess Rs. 3-2-0 per cent. and local rate Rs. 4-11-0 per cent.—on the land revenue, which have been maintained unaltered, but also of the various miscellaneous cesses and imposts (known locally as *lags*) which have been tacked on the *jama* from time to time. The chief items were (1) percentage on the *jama* levied for arrears prior to last settlement, (2) subscriptions to temples, (3) instalments payable to Mahajans for advances in the famine of 1877-78, (4) resumption of part of the owner's estimated profits or of the *lambardari* dues for some past misconduct, (5) subscriptions for the Ramlila fair and for the purchase of Gauges water to wash idols, and (6) charges for roadside grazing and the cultivation of waternuts, etc. etc. Details for each tahsil are given in Chapter VIII of the Assessment Reports, and the items are varied and curious. The incidence of these petty items was generally arbitrary and unequal. They complicate the accounts and furnish a bad precedent, which the officials of Native States are only too ready to lay hold of, for the imposition of new imposts. The instalments for old arrears have ceased with the remission of the arrears as explained in Chapter II. The Darbar at my suggestion agreed to the abolition of all the remaining charges as apart from the land revenue, and to arrange for payment of them, where such was expedient, from the State Treasury.

The total remission in each tahsil works out as follows:—

						Rs.
Gopalgarh	...	...	...	...	...	3,973
Pahari	...	...	...	...	...	3,169
Kama	...	...	...	...	...	4,158
Dig	..	...	...	...	...	5,662
Kumher	...	...	...	...	...	3,497
Akheygarh	...	...	...	...	...	3,229
Bharatpur	...	...	...	...	...	6,195
Nagar	...	...	...	...	...	3,854
Rupbas	...	...	...	...	...	4,066
Oochan	...	...	...	...	...	3,122
Biyana	...	...	...	...	...	3,899
Wair	...	...	...	...	...	5,827
Grand Total						50,651

This remission should be set off against the increase in the land revenue demand on re-assessment,

120. In future the items of demand will be very simple, being limited to—

- (1) the land revenue;
- (2) local rate at Rs. 4-11-0 per cent., or 3 pies per rupee;
- (2) patwar cess (*dami*) at Rs. 3-2-0 per cent., or 2 pice per rupee; and in certain villages,
- (3) instalments on account of arrears since 1890;
- (4) water-rate on land irrigated from State works where this has not been taken account of in the assessment.

These make up the demand due to the State, besides which there is a special cess levied as *malba* for village expenses. To complete this chapter these two latter charges may be explained.

121. The *sairaba* demand or water-rate represents the charge on all lands irrigated by dams, channels, and other distributaries constructed by the State. At last settlement lands which were *sairaba* at the time—*i.e.*, inundated by any of these sources—were assessed as such, and no provision was made for charging a separate rate in case of future extensions of irrigation.

The development of the irrigation system, so successfully carried on by the Executive Engineer within the last six years, has greatly increased the area benefitted by and the efficiency of the inundations, and since 1897, when the results of the new management began to be appreciable, the State has imposed

a demand of Re. 1 per *bigha* within and 8 annas per *bigha* outside the *bands* for all new land irrigated. The working of this rule gave rise to many disputes and much confusion, as the Zamindars when assessed to water-rates frequently claimed (1) that this was already included in their *jama*, as the land had been recorded and assessed as *sairaba* at last settlement; (2) that their lands were not irrigated by any State works, but inundated by natural flow of the annual floods.

122. Finally, after discussion and consultation with the Executive Engineer and the State Council, the following general principles (see Executive Engineer's letter No. 1519, dated 19th August 1899, to State Council) were accepted:—

- (1) Land benefitted by natural flow without artificial means of distribution, to be assessed accordingly in the settlement and not to pay separate water-rates.
- (2) As a general rule the *sairaba* area at time of attestation to be taken account of in assessment, so that no separate demand for water-rate will arise as regards it, whether actually irrigated in any year or not.
- (3) Land newly irrigated after the settlement or lands not assessed as *sairaba* at settlement, but which have been artificially irrigated, shall pay a separate water-rate.
- (4) When the total area irrigated in any village by new works or by good floods distributed artificially exceeds in any year the area assessed as *sairaba* at settlement, that village will have to pay water-rates on the excess area.
- (5) If the total area so irrigated should be less than the area assessed as *sairaba* at settlement, the village will nevertheless have to pay the full settlement *jama* because the contingency of an occasional failure has been taken account of in fixing the *sairaba* rates of assessment.
- (6) If any land has been newly irrigated, but has derived no benefit as regards the crops from such irrigation, the water-rate will be remitted; if the benefit is slight, a partial exemption will be allowed.
- (7) All lands held in *misti*, *inam*, or *jagir* will pay a separate water-rate on the area benefitted by irrigation works, unless they have been specially exempted from such payment.

To complete these rules it is only necessary to add as a rider to rule (5)—“But if, owing to changes in the course of the stream, floods, or irrigation channels, the *sairaba* area assessed at settlement has been considerably reduced, that shall be a reason for revising the assessment.”

In the southern tahsils the irrigation from the Bareta *band*, from the new Thilchaba or Haleyna, Hasaonda, Pathena canals, and the Lalpura *band* has been kept outside the assessment. Moreover, in a great many other villages new *bands* were constructed or old ones restored in last year's famine, and the effects of these on agriculture cannot yet be estimated. In such cases, too, the water-rate has been kept separate, and will be charged on the area flooded and cultivated from year to year.

Generally speaking, the irrigation, whether from dams, flood channels, or natural inundations, is rather directed than controlled; the villages affected benefit to some extent every year, though the advantage varies largely from year to year; it is next to impossible to separate the value of the land from the water-advantage; the people are accustomed to having the latter included in their *jamans*; and the most workable system is therefore to assess such lands as they are, making sufficient allowance for occasional failure or excess of floods and leaving it open to charge a separate water-rate when the area benefitted exceeds that now assessed as *sairaba*.

For the canal irrigation from the Bareta reservoir separate rates have been framed; for all other irrigation the usual rate is Re. 1 per *bigha*.

To obviate all misunderstanding hereafter lists have now been prepared which show for each village whether the water-rate is to be levied separately or whether it has been included in the new assessment, and if so, on what area it has been calculated.

123. The *malba* charges are only so far connected with the assessment that, although the income is spent in the village, it is part of the burden borne by the revenue-payers. It is levied by a percentage on the *jama*. This percentage was hitherto fixed on no principal, and varied from 2 to 15 per cent. according to the caprice of the Tahsildars or assessing officer, and the amount of influence which the Lambardars who administered the fund were able to exercise upon him. In return the tahsil officials freely laid the fund under contribution, and the expenditure generally showed serious abuses. In connection with the revision of the *lambardari* system (see Chapter VIII) and the fixing of a uniform rate of Rs. 3-2-0 percent. on the *jama* as the remuneration allowed by the State to the Lambardars, the rates of *malba* have also been revised and have now been fixed as follows in each tahsil:—

Villages paying up to Rs. 500 = Rs. 7-13-0, or 5 pice per rupee.

" " Rs. 500 to 1,000 = Rs. 6-4-0, or 4 pice per rupee.

" " " 1,000 to 3,000 = Rs. 4-11-0, or 3 " "

" " " over 3,000 = Rs. 3-2-0, or 2 " "

In each case one pice per rupee, *i.e.*, Re. 1-9-0 per cent., will go to the Lambardars as an addition to the Rs. 3-2-0 per cent. allowed by the State, and the rest will be administered by the Lambardars and devoted to legitimate objects as defined in the *vajib-ul-arz*. The following table shows the total amount levied under the old and new system in each tahsil:—

Serial No.	Names of Tahsils.	Former (khalsa villages.)	PRESENT MALBA.		
			Khalsa.	Mafi.	Total.
1	Gopalgarh	11,859	...	...	...
2	Pahari	5,890	9,834	139	9,973
3	Kama	4,243	7,358	647	8,005
4	Dig	8,717	6,795	2,178	8,973
5	Kumher	7,812	6,109	1,961	8,010
6	Akheygarh... ..	7,048	8,704	1,042	9,836
7	Bharatpur	8,940	7,060	1,709	8,769
8	Nagar	5,057	12,708	516	13,224
9	Rupbas	7,462	9,956	915	10,871
10	Oochain	7,318	...	...	...
11	Bijana	15,627	9,235	1,452	10,687
12	Wair	18,341	11,077	1,403	12,480
	Total ...	1,05,314	88,926	11,902	1,00,828

It will be seen that in *khalsa* villages the expenditure has been reduced by about Rs. 20,000.

CHAPTER V.

RESULTS OF RE-ASSESSMENT.

124. Before applying the various estimates of the new assessment described in Chapter IV., which are of a more or less hypothetical nature, it will be convenient to summarise the practical considerations for and against enhancement.

The following table shows the increase or decrease in cultivated area, wells, *chahi* and *dahri* area, ploughs, prices, and population as compared with last settlement:—

TAHSIL.	Culti- vated area.	Crop area.	CHARI AREA.		MASONRY.		Kucha wells.	Ploughs.	Prices.	Population.
			Hal.	Total.	Wells.	Laos.				
Gopalgarh ...	+16.5	+11	-25	-9	-27	-27	Not known.	+35	5 per cent.	
Pahari ...	+9	+7	Not known.	+13	-7	-20	...	+45		
Kama ...	+12	+22	...	+15	+7	+16	+130	+35		
Dig ...	+27	+32	...	+32	+12	+12	Nil.	+46		
Kumher ...	+18	+14	-10	-1	+18	-7	-7	+14	Nil.	
Akheygarh ...	+5	+6	-22	-16	-2	-7	+31	+13		
Bharatpur ...	+27	+31	-12	+11	+10	-14	-8	+21		
Nagar ...	+17	+22	-6	-4	+5	-10	+47	+41	Nil.	
Rupbas ...	+16	+39	-17	-5	+86	+11	+273	+46		
Oochaina ...	+19	+1	-21	-16	+3	+11	-2	+17		
Biyana ...	+5	-4	-13	-11	-3	+5	-22	+4		
Bhusawar ...	+2	+1	-20	-19	+5	+11	+29	+21		
Balabgarh ...	+0	+7	-9	-5	...	...	...	+32
Total of State ...	13	13.5	-2

Owing to the incomplete or inaccurate character of the statistics of the 1890 Settlement, the data for ascertaining the subsequent increase or decrease are not always quite satisfactory. This much is however clear, that for the whole State there has been a substantial increase—from 13 to 14 per cent. in total cultivation and area of crops sown; that there has been a decrease, though only temporary, in the number of working masonry wells and *laos*; an increase in the number of *kacha* wells, and a falling off in the total *chahi* area and the area irrigated within the year, but this decrease is largely owing to the recent drought and may be regarded as temporary. There has been a very large apparent increase of ploughs—but the figures of last settlement are doubtful—and a slight decrease of 2 per cent. in population, but this is caused by the falling off in urban population, and the rural population has risen slightly. Prices, for reasons already stated, have not increased for purposes of assessment.

Among more general considerations for and against enhancement the following may be urged:—

For—(1) a great improvement in the revenue administration since 1895, and especially during the progress of settlement, *viz.*, the correct definitions of the rights of the Zamindars, the limitation of their liabilities to the State, great security of property and safeguards against exactions, and, above all, the settlement on a sound basis of deserted holdings and *kham* estates;

- (2) the remissions of the enormous arrears prior to 1890,—over 43 lakhs,—and all payments in liquidation thereof;
- (3) the remission of most of the arrears since 1890, and the arrangements made to realise the sums to be collected by easy instalments;
- (4) the steady development of the irrigation system, and the restoration and extension of the *bands* on which the State has spent several lakhs since 1895;
- (5) the disappearance of the wild cattle nuisance which harassed Bharatpur, Kumher, and parts of Dig, Rupbas, and Oochain;
- (6) the abolition of a great number of extra cesses, the reduction of the rate and amount of *malba*, and the reform of the *lambardari* system;
- (7) the general inclusion in the assessment of water-rate on *sairaba* lands, where it was formerly separately levied;
- (8) the large amount of waste land still available in the central and southern tahsils, which is being steadily broken up.

- Against*—(1) The land revenue had already been enhanced between 1855 and 1899 from Rs. 14,16,000 to Rs. 19,10,000, *i.e.*, by 35 per cent., owing to frequent re-assessments for short terms;
- (2) the condition of the people owing to agricultural calamities and gross maladministration deteriorated steadily between 1876 and 1890, and it is only within the last few years that it has shown signs of recovery;
 - (3) in consequence of (2) even the assessment of 1890 has not been paid in full except in the northern tahsils and in Nagar, and even in these there were slight arrears in 1898-99 and heavy arrears owing to the famine of 1899-1900;
 - (4) the assessment of 1890-91 was heavy in the remaining tahsils, and oppressive in Rupbas and Bhusawar as well as in many individual estates of all tahsils;
 - (5) 58·5 per cent. of the cultivation is dependent solely on the rainfall, which, though fairly abundant on an average of years, is subject to great fluctuations from year to year, while the winter rains are very uncertain;
 - (6) though 22·5 per cent. of the area is secured by wells a large proportion of these are brackish or bitter, which, unless aided by rainfall, tend to deteriorate the soil, and the drought of recent years has reduced the water-supply in all wells and thrown a great number out of working;
 - (7) the new cultivation is often in inferior lands, and most of it was assessed as fallow at last settlement at from 2 to 8 annas per *bigha*;
 - (8) many village communities have not recovered from the famine of 1877-78 and do not possess enough hands or cattle to work their lands fully, they have also been much straitened by the recent drought;
 - (9) owing to the want of cultivators, especially in the central and southern tahsils, there is little competition for land and rents are low;
 - (10) the crops are in many places damaged by wild animals,—deer, *nilgai*, pig, etc.,—and in the sandy tracts close to the Banganga and Gambhir, by field rats.

The problem of assessment was to so adjust the above considerations to the estimates of assessment referred to in the preceding chapter as to work out an equitable demand based on the principle that the State share is two-thirds of the estimated net assets (except on *chauth* and *istamrari* holdings).

125. The following table shows for each tahsil (1) the old demand alone and including cesses now abolished; (2) the theoretical new demand brought out by the various estimates; (3) the assessment proposed in each case; (4) the assessment as actually announced, *i.e.*, the sum total of the village assessments:—

Old and new demand by tahsils and estimates for fixing the latter.

Estimate.	No.	Gopalgarh.	Pahari.	Kama.	Dig.	Kumher.	Akheygarh.	Bharatpur.	Nagar.	Rupbas.	Oochain.	Bijana.	Bhusawar.	Ballabgarh.	Total.
Old demand (land revenue)	2,43,040	1,23,717	1,38,264	1,35,304	1,35,743	1,43,544	1,43,884	00,007	1,05,855	1,72,705	2,05,972	2,36,480	34,643	19,09,158
Old demand with cesses abolished	2,48,020	1,27,220	1,42,512	1,44,519	1,39,240	1,46,773	1,50,040	93,861	1,10,454	1,82,837	2,10,230	2,45,409	35,121	19,76,336
Summary rate of last settlement	2,83,400	1,33,588	...	...	1,82,903	1,66,702	1,86,745	1,08,168	1,68,745	2,11,782	2,09,391	2,55,334	32,710	...
A. Soil rates	2,38,987	1,34,101	1,44,869	1,69,679	1,66,609	1,58,856	1,68,990	1,00,718	1,36,472	2,03,239	2,01,203	2,41,275	31,409	...
B. One-fourth of the net produce	2,86,136	1,41,292	1,73,821	1,65,604	1,58,171	1,55,125	1,70,007	1,02,174	1,05,052	1,84,887	2,14,501	2,36,770	33,427	...
C. By kind rents—State share = $\frac{1}{3}$ owner's share.	...	2,96,428	1,48,198	1,80,072	1,67,532	1,58,175	1,52,046	1,70,470	1,04,793	1,07,839	1,81,836	2,08,466	2,30,701	31,686	...
D. By recorded cash rents State share = $\frac{1}{3}$ owner's share.	...	1,96,215	1,50,770	1,34,424	1,10,212	1,16,093	1,17,515	1,10,307	63,021	79,839	1,37,334	1,50,263	1,71,189	25,126	...
E. By specially attested cash rents	1,65,480	1,40,773	1,50,710	...	1,55,426	...	97,325	1,60,207	1,84,652	...	...	...
Now demand { (a) Proposed in assessment reports, (b) As announced. }	...	2,80,000	1,38,000	1,57,000	1,59,000	1,55,000	1,50,000	1,60,000	1,03,000	1,11,000	1,87,000	2,17,000	2,36,000	36,000	20,85,000
Initial	2,82,025	1,38,605	1,57,400	1,56,163	1,52,089	1,47,663	1,55,268	1,04,492	1,08,421	1,82,275	2,15,430	2,27,656	36,000	20,61,387
Final	do.	do.	do.	do.	1,56,868	1,49,963	1,63,593	1,06,785	1,12,321	1,86,475	2,13,300	2,30,830	do.	20,96,208

Thus according to the assessment reports, which deal only with the *khalsa* villages and do not include the leases of waste land, the demand of the year prior to assessment was Rs. 19,09,158, and including cesses abolished or included in the *jama* Rs. 19,76,336. The new demand proposed by me was Rs. 20,85,000, and the demand as actually announced was Rs. 20,64,387, rising by progressive assessment in certain villages in certain tahsils to Rs. 20,96,208 in the sixth year, at which amount it will remain for the remaining term of settlement. My reasons for fixing the new demand are fully explained in the assessment reports and the letters reporting the announcement of the new *jama*, which have been printed as appendices to the reports. Progressive assessments were given to villages (1) in which the assessment was considerable, and it would be impolitic to demand it in full

at once, or (2) which, owing to temporary depression, were at present unable to pay a full *jama*, but were likely to be able to do so after a few years.

The soil rates adopted to work out the new demand in each tahsil were as follows:—

NAMES OF TAHSIL.	CHAIL.				Khatili.	SAIRABA.				Bardai.	Bhur.	Total demand on cultivation.	Average on cultivation.	New fallow.	Banjar.	Total demand on fallow and banjar.	Grand total of demand by proposed rates.
	Hail.			Sairaba.		Sabika.	Bardai.	Average.									
	Permanent.	Temporary.	Hail.														
Gopalgarh ...	2 12 0	2 12 0	...	1 8 0	2 7 0	...	2 4 0	1 8 0	1 15 3	1 0 0	8 0	2,60,000	1 10 11	0 8 0	...	2,439	2,82,439
Pahari ...	2 4 0	2 4 0	...	1 8 0	1 15 6	...	2 0 0	1 6 0	1 6 3	1 0 0	8 0	1,38,000	1 3 8	0 8 0	...	1,442	1,39,442
Karna ...	2 4 0	2 4 0	...	1 4 0	1 14 0	...	2 0 0	1 4 0	1 4 1	0 15 0	0 10 0	1,57,000	1 2 0	0 8 0	...	283	1,57,283
Dig { Khalsa ...	2 2 0	2 2 0	...	1 4 0	1 14 6	...	2 0 0	1 3 0	1 2 4	0 14 6	0 10 0	1,30,000	1 2 0	0 4 0	...	863	1,30,863
Chauth ...	0 15 0	0 15 0	...	0 8 0	0 13 4	...	...	0 7 0	0 7 0	0 5 4	0 4 0	23,000	0 8 2	0 2 0	...	126	23,126
Kumhar ...	2 0 0	...	...	0 15 6	1 9 11	...	...	0 13 0	...	0 13 3	0 8 0	1,47,716	1 0 11	0 4 0	1 0	9,424	1,57,140
Akheygarh ...	2 4 0	...	...	1 11 6	2 2 1	...	1 0 0	...	...	0 13 0	0 8 0	1,15,094	1 2 6	0 4 0	...	4,701	1,49,795
Bharatpur ...	2 2 0	...	...	1 2 0	1 12 0	...	1 8 0	1 2 0	...	0 13 0	0 8 0	1,53,299	1 3 0	0 4 0	0 2 0	6,784	1,60,083
Nagar ...	2 0 0	...	...	1 8 0	1 14 6	...	0 15 0	0 15 0	...	0 15 0	0 10 0	1,04,383	1 0 9	0 4 0	...	861	1,05,244
Rupbas ...	2 12 0	2 4 0	3 0 0	1 8 0	2 5 0	1 10 0	1 10 0	1 4 0	1 5 1	1 0 0	0 13 0	1,07,230	1 4 8	0 4 0	1 0	4,425	1,11,655
Oochain ...	2 8 0	2 4 0	3 0 0	1 4 0	2 5 4	1 12 0	1 12 0	1 0 0	1 8 4	0 14 0	0 10 0	1,84,544	1 8 0	0 4 0	1 0	2,980	1,87,474
Biyana ...	3 0 0	2 4 0	3 4 0	1 8 0	2 8 4	2 8 0	1 10 0	1 6 0	1 8 11	0 12 0	0 8 0	2,11,879	1 7 10	0 4 0	0 6	5,080	2,16,959
Bhusavar ...	2 13 0	2 0 0	3 0 0	2 3 0	2 6 9	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 2 0	1 7 6	0 12 0	0 8 0	2,26,231	1 5 3	0 4 0	...	5,682	2,31,911
Ballabgarh ...	3 4 0	2 8 0	3 4 0	1 8 0	2 13 3	...	...	1 2 0	1 2 0	0 12 0	0 8 0	34,183	1 10 3	...	...	...	34,183

126. These rates have been compared with one another and with those of adjoining British Districts and Native States in the assessment reports and need not be further discussed here.

As the twelve tahsils shown in the preceding table have now been reduced to ten, and there have been considerable changes in the boundaries, it will be convenient to show for the tahsils as now constituted the old and new demand, with details of progressive enhancement, and also of (1) *khalsa* villages, (2) *kham* villages, and (3) leases of State lands.. This is done in the following table:—

Statement showing new jama.

Serial No.	Name of Tahsil.	Detail.	Old Jama. 1897-98 or 1898-99.	NEW JAMA.							
				Sambat 1956. 1899-1900	Sambat 1957. 1900-01.	Sambat 1958. 1901-02	Sambat 1959. 1902-03	Sambat 1960. 1903-04	Sambat 1961. 1904-05.	Sambat 1962. 1905-06.	
1	Pahari ...	Fixed Mandal Kham ...	2,05,324 177	2,30,840 350	2,30,840 350	2,30,840 350	2,30,840 350	2,30,840 350	2,30,840 350	2,30,840 350	
		Total ...	2,05,501	2 31 190	2,31,190	2,31,190	2,31,190	2,31,190	2,31,190	2,31,190	
2	Kama ...	Fixed ...	1,42,707	1,63,050	1,63,050	1,63,050	1,63,050	1,63,050	1,63,050	1,63,050	
3	Dig ...	Fixed Daharkho (Kham.) Chaks ...	1,30,878	1,50,057 1,250 305	1,50,057 2,500 1,085	1,50,057 2,500 1,591	1,50,057 3,750 2,173	1,50,057 3,750 2,604	1,50,057 3,750 2,785	1,50,057 3,750 2,785	
		Total ...	1,30,878	1,51,612	1,53,642	1,54,148	1,55,980	1,56,411	1,56,792	1,56,592	
4	Kumher*	Fixed Qasba Kumher Kham Chaks	1,26,512 3,375 Do.	1,41,659 4,580 2,052	1,41,797 4,752 3,825	1,41,934 5,022 5,412	1,42,234 5,303 7,718	1,42,234 5,305 8,219	1,45,859 5,309 8,607	1,45,859 5,309 8,607	
		Total ...	1,30,087	1,48,291	1,50,374	1,52,366	1,55,255	1,53,788	1,59,775	1,59,775	
5	Akheygarh	Fixed Chaks ...	2 00,167 ...	2,14,890 ...	2,16,856 370	2,16,856 555	2,16,856 739	2,18,556 846	2,19,006 846	21,990 846	
		Total ...	2,00,167	2,14,890	2,17,226	2,17,411	2,17,595	2,19,402	2,20,752	2,20,752	
6	Nagar ...	Fixed Chak Sandauli ...	2,50,335 ...	2,91,310 1,012	2,91,340 1,390	2,91,340 2,085	2,92,590 2,085	2,92,590 2,085	2,92,590 2,085	2,92,590 2,085	
		Total ...	2,50,335	2,92,382	2,92,730	2,93,425	2,94,675	2,94,675	2,94,675	2,94,675	
7	Bharatpur †	Fixed Bharatpur Srinagar Chaks ...	1,28,880 11,277 ...	1,41,098 7,500 8,757	1,41,198 8,419 11,457	1,41,218 8,752 15,572	1,42,823 9,126 17,097	1,42,923 9,127 17,580	1,49,273 9,127 17,580	1,49,273 9,127 17,580	
		Total ...	1,40,257	1,57,355	1,61,074	1,65,572	1,69,046	1,69,630	1,75,980	1,75,980	
8	Rupbas ...	Fixed Chaks ...	2,27,111 101	2,27,111 101	2,37,191 101	2,37,366 2,535	2,37,541 3,617	2,37,641 5,088	2,37,741 5,816	2,44,091 5,816	
		Total ...	2,27,212	2,27,212	2,39,746	2,40,983	2,42,629	2,43,457	2,43,557	2,49,907	
9	Biyana ‡ ...	Fixed Chaks ...	2,06,601 ...	2,06,601 ...	2,15,805 953	2,15,805 1,353	2,15,975 1,594	2,15,975 1,652	2,15,975 1,652	2,18,675 1,652	
		Total ...	2,06,601	2,06,601	2,16,758	2,17,158	2,17,569	2,17,627	2,17,627	2,20,327	
10	Wair ...	Fixed Chaks ...	2,32,378 ...	2,28,395 ...	2,17,868 4,288	2,17,185 2,20,167	2,17,569 22,042	2,17,627 2,20,692	2,20,692 6,898	2,23,492 6,898	
		Total ...	2,32,378	2,28,395	2,24,156	5,764	5,764	6,898	2,27,590	2,30,390	
Jagir	Ballabgarh	Fixed ...	34,643	34,643	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,006	36,000	36,000	
		Fixed Kham Ballabgarh ...	18,59,993 15,029 34,643	19,95,041 13,680 34,643	20,08,002 16,021 36,000	20,08,439 16,624 36,000	20,11,963 18,529 36,000	20,14,108 68,532 36,000	20,25,983 18,536 36,000	20,37,833 18,536 36,000	
	TOTAL	Total ...	1,09,665	20,93,364	20,50,723	20,61,063	20,66,492	20,68,610	20,80,519	20,92,369	
		Chaks ...	101	12,237	23,405	34,426	42,017	44,518	46,269	46,269	
	GRAND TOTAL	...	19,09,766	20,55,621	20,85,425	20,95,189	21,08,509	21,13,176	21,26,788	21,38,638	

* It does not include Rs 660 of *chauth jama* in Ajan Rs. 500 and Karmwan Rs. 160.

† It includes Rs. 315 on *chauth jama* in Niswara, but does not include Rs. 470 of Jhalera and Mandal paid to the Masdar as it is included in *mafi*.

‡ It includes Rs. 375 of Mahloni deducted from *mafi jama*. The *jama* of Chak Sawantgarh not included.

127. The figures show some slight variations from those in the preceding paragraph owing to the clearing up of certain doubtful points as to *khalsa* and *mafi* lands in Pathana, and a few minor corrections. But the figures now given may be considered final. They show that (1) excluding the leases of waste the demand has been raised from Rs. 19,09,665 to Rs. 20,60,023 in 1900-1901 and Rs. 20,92,369 in 1905-1906—an initial increase of Rs. 1,50,358, or 8 per cent., and a final increase of Rs. 1,82,704, or 9·5 per cent.; and (2) including the leases of waste land the demand has risen from Rs. 19,09,766 to Rs. 20,85,428 in 1900-1901 and Rs. 21,38,638 in 1905-1906—an enhancement of Rs. 1,75,662, or 9 per cent. initial, and of Rs. 2,28,872, or 12 per cent. final. Against this enhancement must be set off miscellaneous cesses now abolished to the extent of about Rs. 60,000.

128. After the assessment proposals for each tahsil had been formulated, the assessments for each estate were worked out by me with the aid of the Cirele officers, and a note showing why and how the result had been arrived at was recorded opposite each estate in Statement B. In this note the disposal of the arrears in each case is also shown, and all other matters relating to the village assessment, *viz.*, the amount due on *khalsa* and *mafi* lands,—whether water-rates have been included in or excluded from the *jama*,—have been cleared up. This working out of the assessment village by village was the most tedious and laborious part of the settlement, but the notes recorded by myself and the Cirele officers in our village to village inspections much facilitated it.

The standard rates were freely departed from where circumstances justified such a course, and on this point local knowledge as to the condition of the estate and the resources of the people was essential.

129. The village assessments when thus worked out were announced by me, in the presence of the Political Agent and one or more Members of the Council, to the assembled Lambardars and other representatives of each tahsil as follows:—

Northern Tahsils—at Dig in August 1899;

Central Tahsils—at Bharatpur in October 1899;

Southern Tahsils—at Bharatpur in August and at Biyana in December 1900.

I think out of 1,397 estates there were only two in which the assessments were not based largely on my own local inspections. I do not claim any special merit for this village to village inspection, but it inspired confidence in the people, and gave me a firmer grasp of the question of assessment. As shown in Chapter II all previous assessments had been made by a Committee at headquarters who had no local knowledge and were absolutely dependent on the information supplied to them by Tahsildars who were frequently either corrupt or incompetent.

The new assessments were in every case readily accepted by the Zamindars, who received at once *pattas* in Hindi explaining all details of the new demand, while in token of acceptance they signed or sealed the *kabuliyats* or Urdu counterparts containing the order of assessment, which have been included in the settlement record. There was no refusal to enter into the new engagements, and, as far as I am aware, not a single petition or appeal against the assessments has been preferred to the Darbar or to the Agent to the Governor-General. In one estate—Jhanjar (tahsil Nagar)—I have arranged for a reduction of Rs. 500 on the *jama* originally imposed, as water is no longer available for the cultivation of rice on as large a scale as formerly. No doubt the remission of the old arrears, and the fixing of easy instalments for the amounts which it was decided to collect as described in Chapter II, helped considerably towards this satisfactory result, but I think that the people realised that at last the State had decided to deal fairly and honourably by them, and after the successive short-term assessments, made on no system except that of squeezing as much as possible from the land-holders, the fixing of

a reasonable demand for a term of twenty years was looked as a guarantee that the State had now adopted a policy which in the long run will prove beneficial to both parties.

129A. In explanation of the pitch of the new assessment and the manner in which it should be worked, I reproduce the following General remarks on the pitch of new assessment. extract from my letter No. 2713, dated 16th January 1901, to the Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States :—

"15. The fiscal results of the re-assessment will therefore be an immediate enhancement of about Rs. 1,75,662 and a final enhancement of over Rs. 2,28,872 in the land revenue demand, and whereas the average realisations under the old assessment fell short of the demand by nearly a lakh of rupees a year, I am confident that the new demand being judiciously apportioned between estates and fairly distributed among the sharholders within them, will, if a proper revenue system is maintained and adequate suspensions of revenue are given in years of distress, be realised on the whole fully and punctually. The new assessment represents a full two-thirds of the net assets, and over and above it local rate and cesses amounting to Rs. 7-13-0 per cent. are realised by the State, as well as instalments for arrears in most of the villages in the central and southern tahsils.

"Taking all these into account the new assessment probably comes to three-fourths of the net assets or estimated rental, which, though not excessive by the standard of Native States, is distinctly high, and is certainly 50 per cent. higher than in any British district of the assessment of which, I am in a position to speak. The Bharatpur State is fortunate in possessing perhaps the finest peasantry in Rajputana, not excepting even Alwar. That the gross mismanagement of the revenue administration in the past has not demoralised them is the most eloquent testimony to this fact. The manner in which they have hitherto endeavoured to meet their liabilities, though often grievously oppressive, under circumstances the most discouraging, is to me a marvel. Given fair play in ordinary years and reasonable consideration in seasons of distress, I am confident that not only will they be able to meet the demands of the settlement now introduced, but at its termination will have so developed their resources and strengthened their position as to be able to bear a further enhancement at least in the central and southern tahsils.

"17. The first regular settlement and re-assessment of the State may be said to synchronise with its coming under direct administration. Under existing circumstances the term of the new settlement will expire about the time when His Highness the present infant Maharaja may be expected to take over the administration, and if the principles which I have attempted to indicate are followed during the long period of minority, the Imperial Government may look forward to making over to him a State second to none in Rajputana in the solvency of its finances and the prosperity and contentment of its people. If I may be allowed to touch on a matter foreign to the land revenue assessment, but intimately connected with the well-being of the people, I would suggest that as soon as the finances of the State permit, the present oppressive duties on import and export of nearly all forms of agricultural produce which paralyse trade and are a dead weight on the producer should be remitted.

Dates of revenue instalments. 130. Before the present settlement the dates of realising the revenue instalments were :—

Khariif { 1st instalment, 15th *Magh Badi*, about 25th November.
2nd instalment, 15th *Poh Badi*, about 25th December.

Rabi { 1st instalment, 15th *Baisakh*, about 25th April.
2nd instalment, 15th *Jeth Badi*, about 25th May.

These dates were only nominally adhered to, and realisations often commenced in October for the *khariif* and early in April for the *rabi*.

A State watchman (*shahna*) was usually posted in every village at harvest time to see that the crops were not removed before payment of the demand. In my report on the Northern Tahsils the following dates were provisionally sanctioned :—

Khariif { 1st instalment, 25th November.
2nd instalment, 25th December.

Rabi—One instalment, 15th May.

Experience has shown that from the State point of view these dates are rather late, and the Tahsildars are inclined to anticipate them.

Therefore, after further consideration of all aspects of the question and consultation with the State Council and Revenue authorities, the following dates were finally fixed for the whole State:—

Kharif { 1st instalment, 15th to 30th November.
2nd instalment, 15th to 31st December.

Rabi—One instalment, from first to the end of May.

These dates are suitable both for the people and the State, and should be rigidly adhered to; the present custom of anticipating them is a most pernicious one, though always favoured by the Tahsildars, and should on no account be allowed,

131. The proportions payable for *kharif* and *rabi* have been fixed for every estate with reference to the area and value of the two crops and to the wishes of the revenue-payers, but if it is found necessary to amend them hereafter the Deputy Collectors should report the matter to the Council and obtain sanction. If, for instance, the *kharif* cultivation much exceeds the average owing to favourable rains or other causes, while the area sown for the *rabi* falls short of the average, in such cases if the Zamindars agree, they may be allowed to pay something above the fixed instalment in the *kharif*, the excess being credited against the *rabi* demand. This should, however, be left to their own discretion, except in cases when the people are bad payers, or when it is feared that the *rabi* cultivation will be seriously contracted. If such be the case the Tahsildars should report the matter to the Deputy Collector and obtain sanction to collecting an excess amount in the *kharif*.

132. Before the new *jama* was announced there were frequent complaints of over-realisation against the Patwaris and Lambardars. The reason was that there existed no permanent method of distribution. The *jama* was generally redistributed every year by shares or over the cropped area by soil or all-round rates. No owner or tenant knew his liability beforehand. The amount to be collected and the method of its distribution were left entirely to the discretion of Patwaris and Lambardars, who after discharging the State demand often misappropriated the surplus.

The new demand has now been worked out for every holding separately, and every owner and every tenant paying at owners' rates has received a slip (*parcha*) giving the details and total for his holding. This will protect the people against extortion and over-realizations by the Patwaris and Lambardars. The subject is explained at more length in the following chapter.

CHAPTER VI.

Former and present methods of distribution.

133. The following table shows the various methods of distribution employed in past years and as now fixed :—

Serial No.	NAMES OF TAHSILS.	Number of villages.	Detail of distribution.	ZAMINDARI.		DISTRIBUTION BY SHARES.		DISTRIBUTION ACCORDING TO POSSESSION.			State property.
				Pure.	Joint.	Ancestral.	Customary.	Soil rates.	All-round rates.	Separate rate on cultivable and banjar.	
1	Pahari ...	134	Former... Present...	1 1	3 1	.. ..	.. ..	31 31	99 54	.. 47	....
2	Kama ...	122	Former... Present...	1 1	1 1	24 13	.. ..	4 25	67 31	22 48	3 3
3	Dig ...	120	Former... Present...	2 2	2 1	34 22	.. ..	28 17	37 14	13 60	4 4
4	Kumher ...	118	Former... Present ..	3 2	.. ..	39 9	.. ..	8 3	38 1	27 100	3 3
5	Akheygarh ...	112	Former... Present...	1. ..	3 5	81 5	3 ..	12 16	5 ..	7 86	....
6	Nagar ...	171	Former... Present ..	2 2	7 7	.. ..	.. ..	83 82	65 21	14 59	....
7	Bharatpur ...	150	Former... Present...	2 3	5 7	3 ..	.. ..	17 18	118 5	.. 112	5 5
8	Rupbas ...	147	Former... Present...	6 6	20 19	61 13	2 1	16 65	38 7	4 36	....
9	Biyana ...	168	Former... Present...	.. 1	32 31	60 8	42 1	16 23	9 1	8 102	1 1
10	Wair ...	155	Former... Present...	7 3	.. 1	93 18	.. ..	52 30	3 ..	.. 97	....
	Total ...	1,307	Former... Present...	25 21	73 73	395 88	47 2	267 316	479 134	93 747	16 16

From this it appears that under the old system one-third of the estates distributed the *jama* by shares, and another third distributed by an all-round rate on cultivation. The former system was more general in the southern tahsils ; the latter in the northern tahsils and in Bharatpur.

134. Both systems are very faulty. The distribution by an all-round rate on cultivation is obviously unequal and unjust. The basis was not the cultivated area of settlement, but the actual cropped area of the year or harvest. In most villages fallow land (*jadid*) was also included, and in some there was a separate rate also for culturable (*kadim*) in the possession of individual shareholders, especially if it grows reeds (*sarkanda*) or thatching grass (*gandar*). In some villages it was customary to have a separate *bachh* in each harvest, viz., a uniform rate for all *kharif* crops, and soil rates on *chahi*, *sairaba*, *barani* for *rabi* crops.

The *bachh* might be varied from year to year or from harvest to harvest, and this generally lay in the discretion of the Lambardars, Patwaris, and Tahsildars, who decided how much of the old arrears were to be collected. Irregular items were also included now and then. Thus the Zamindars, instead of settling beforehand with the tenants the rents payable by the latter, left the matter over till the *bachh*, and then fixed rates of distribution which, after discharging the State demand, would leave themselves a greater or less margin of profit. This was a villainous system, as no one knew his liability beforehand, and caused frequent complaints of over-realisation, etc.

135. The general system of distributing revenue liability by shares where proprietary rights are based on shares, though specious enough at first sight, is radically unsound and has been the cause of the ruin of hundreds of shareholders and of

holdings being abandoned and left derelict. Such a distribution to be equitable pre-supposes (1) that the original partition of the land by shares was made equally and justly, but in Bharatpur this is very far from being the case, as the strongest shareholders seized the best land and wells prior to and retained them on partition; (2) that since the original partition there has been no change of any importance in the relative revenue-paying capacity of the holdings. But this assumption, too, is far from correct, for in a tract like this, subject to considerable river action, and also much dependent on wells, this factor cannot remain constant over a term of years. One shareholder's well is bitter; or it runs dry, or collapses, and he is not in a position to renew it; or his land gets sanded over by a Bangan-ga flood, and goes out of cultivation; and yet he is compelled to pay the same amount of revenue as a shareholder who has none of these disadvantages to contend with. No wonder that under such a blind rule-of-thumb system desertions have been numerous, for a great number of shareholders were placed under a distinct disadvantage.

The fact is that in former assessments no attention was given to the distribution of the State demand. The people were in theory left to arrange this themselves, which in practice meant that it was arranged for them by the Patwari with the aid of one to two pushing Lambardars or shareholders who had their own ends to serve. They have now come to recognise the evil results of the old system; and the first question asked when arrangements are on foot for the settlement of the deserted holdings is whether the new *jama* will be distributed as before by shares—in which case no offers would be forthcoming—or by rates on the different classes of soil according to quality. When reassured on this point they were generally found willing to undertake responsibility. Even in joint estates the co-sharers were found anxious to pay for the lands in their separate occupation by soil rates. Of course in such cases the first step should be a partition, but from this they have been hitherto deterred by the high fees charged and the trouble and delay involved. There are many large and unwieldy estates, still nominally joint, in which partition is absolutely necessary to put things on a proper footing, and special arrangements will be made for this as soon as possible.

136. As the Patwaris and Lambardars who profited by the old system were opposed to any change, we had at first great difficulty in fixing the new methods. The principle was however adhered to, that where a distribution by shares or all-round rates gave rise to inequality suitable soil rates should be framed to work out the new demand. The rates were invariably framed in consultation with the Zamindars, occupancy tenants, and other revenue-payers, and once they began to realise the fairness of the system all open opposition ceased. In fact the first application usually made by the people on hearing the new *jama*, was that it should be distributed by soil rates on the land in their possession. Disputes sometimes arose as to these rates, e.g., (1) some wanted one rate for all the *chahi* lands, others asked for differential rates according as the wells were sweet or bitter; (2) others again applied to have *chahi* on *kacha* wells assessed at lower rates than on masonry wells; (3) some wished for one rate on all *barani*, while others called for a lower rate on *bhur*. The points in issue were discussed with them by the Deputy Collector, and, as a rule, the objections were finally overcome and mutual agreement secured. Where this was found impossible the Deputy Collector finally fixed the rates, but such cases were extremely few.

In the new distribution only 90 villages, or less than 7 per cent., adhered to shares, and 134 villages, or 10 per cent., have adopted an all-round rate on cultivation, while 1,063 villages, or over three-fourths of the total number, have agreed to a distribution by soil rates on *chahi*, *sairaba*, *barani*, etc. The only appeal preferred against the method of distribution was from Heylak in Kumbhar, and this was rejected.

137. The method of distribution in case of progressive assessment will generally follow that of the initial assessment. But in cases where, owing to waste land being broken up, or the area of *chahi* having increased before the final demand is reached, a revision may be necessary; this can be made with the sanction of the Deputy Collector,

Where leases of waste land have been given the demand is usually progressive, and it is hoped that most of the area will have been brought under cultivation in the course of a few years before the final demand is reached. The lessees have generally agreed to pay according to their shares in the area leased. The *jama* will therefore continue to be realised by shares for the term of settlement, unless the Zamindars apply for a revision and agree to some other method.

138. The following shows the year on the area of which the *bachh* was

Area on which *jama* is made in each *tahsil* :—
distributed.

NORTHERN TAHSILS.

	Year.	
Pahari	1897-98	} Including also the area of waste land broken up in 1898-99.
Kama	"	
Dig	"	
Kumher	"	
Akheygarh	"	
Nagar	1897-98	} In some estates on the area of 1897-98, and in some on the area of 1898-99.
Blharatpur	"	
Rupbas	1898-99	} Including also the area of land broken up in 1899-1900.
Biyana	"	
Bhusawar	"	

Thus the *bachh* has in nearly all cases been made on the area actually under cultivation at the time when the new assessment was brought into working, and is therefore well up to date.

139. The principles adopted for the assessment of *sairaba* lands have been described in Chapter IV, and they should be very carefully given effect to by the Revenue Department.

Those which require special attention are—(1) that all *mafi* and *inam* land irrigated from dams and channels shall pay water-rate on such area, unless exempted by special order of the State; (2) that in *khalsa* villages where the water rate has not now been included in the *jama*, it shall be charged on the area annually irrigated and cropped; (3) that when the total area irrigated in any village exceeds in any year the area assessed as *sairaba* at settlement, water-rates will be charged on the excess area. By the irrigated area assessed as such at settlement is meant the area so assessed in the *bachh*, and this should be taken as the basis of all calculations, except in the cases where my order of assessment distinctly specified that I have assumed a certain area as *sairaba*. (4) If any land has been newly irrigated, but has derived no benefit as regard the crops from such irrigation, the water-rate will be remitted; if the benefit is slight, a partial exemption will be allowed.

In special cases when, owing to continued failure of irrigation or a change in the direction of the flood, the assessment has become excessive, it may be revised by Deputy Collectors with the sanction of the Council, and in such cases, too, the *bachh* may be revised and the *jama* re-distributed. If the area now assessed as *sairaba* in the settlement remains uncultivated in any year owing to submerging, the fixed *jama* will not necessarily be altered, as the submerging is, as a rule, only temporary and will prove very beneficial to the crops of the next harvest. But if the submerging seriously damages the crops, remission or suspension of the current demand should of course be allowed with the sanction of the State Council.

140. The annual *bachh* will generally be in accordance with the settlement from year to year according to the area cultivated by the co-sharers. If the land now assessed as cultivated goes out of cultivation or deteriorates in quality owing to wells collapsing or going out of work, the *jama* will not be subject to revision. But where damage or deterioration is due to natural causes, such as the action of *nalas* or streams, reduction of *jama* should be allowed till the land is restored to its former condition. Similarly, where waste land is brought under cultivation, or *barani* land becomes *chahi*, no charge will be made in the fixed assessment, the main object of which is to encourage such improvements by giving a fixed demand for a long term of years.

The *bachh* as now fixed in *pattidari* and *bhayachara* estates will not be subject to revision except in the cases already referred to. In joint estates the *bachh* must be revised annually. This is a tedious and troublesome system, and in itself is calculated to produce many other disorders. In all joint estates and estates nominally partitioned into two or three *pattis*, partition should be encouraged, so that a permanent method of distribution may be fixed on the bases of separate liability.

141. In fixing the methods of distribution the rent payable by occupancy tenants has been defined usually at owner's rate with or without an addition as *malikana*. In some estates the tenants have hitherto paid rent at owner's rate; in others at other rates or a fixed sum as settled by mutual agreement. In joint estates the owners generally realise from tenants a rent in excess of the owner's rate. The great source of difficulty in the old system was that in allotting the land to tenants for cultivation the owners rarely settled the rates of rent beforehand, and at the time of realisation they endeavoured to exact as much as possible. This gave rise to many complaints of over-realisation. To prevent such disputes it has now been arranged:—(1) where the rent has been fixed by a written lease (*patta*) or (2) where it has been fixed orally by mutual consent, and recorded after enquiry from both parties in the *khasra tip* by the Patwari, effect will be given to such lease or agreement—whatever the rates—as between the landlord and tenant; but (3) in other cases where there is no lease and mutual agreement is not proved by the record of rents in the *khasra tip*, the owner shall be only entitled to rent at owners' rates. This provision, will, it is hoped, lead to rents being fixed according to (1) and (2).

The following table shows the rates of *malikana* imposed on occupancy tenants in each tahsil:—

Serial No.	Names of Tahsils.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES AND RATES OF MALIKANA.																			
		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Total.									
		0	0	6	0	1	0	0	1	6	0		0	3	0	0	4	0	0	8	0
		Per rupee of land revenue.																			
1	Pahari .. .. .	...	...	15	...	4	...	4½	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
2	Kama .. .. .	...	...	10	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
3	Dig .. .. .	...	...	5	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	5	...	28
4	Kumher .. .. .	...	...	13	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
5	Akheygarh .. .. .	...	...	6	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
6	Nagar .. .. .	...	...	24	...	9	...	67	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
7	Bharatpur .. .. .	...	...	2	...	2	...	58	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
8	Rupbas .. .. .	...	...	14	...	...	...	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
9	Biwana .. .. .	...	...	1	...	32	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
10	Wair .. .. .	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
	Total .. .. .	...	...	1	...	130	...	18	...	297	...	1	...	3	...	5	...	...	455

The *malikana* allowed to owners varies from $\frac{1}{2}$ anna to 8 annas per rupee over and above the revenue and cesses, but the general rate is from 1 anna to 2 annas per rupee. The high rate of 8 annas per rupee has been allowed in five *chauth* estates of Dig in which the State demand is only one-fourth of the net assets. If the *malikana* were limited to 1 or 2 annas per rupee, the profits of the favourable *chauth* assessment would have been transferred to the tenants.

142. The practice hitherto followed in Bharatpur was that the owners were not held responsible for realisation of *jama* due on tenants' holdings, but both owners and tenants were equally responsible for the demand on the area cultivated. As the rights of owners and tenants have now been fully defined, and the owners are allowed to realise from tenants at more than the owner's rate, they will be held responsible for payment of the *jama* due on lands held by tenants-at-will, whether they have realised the rent from the tenant or not. As occupancy tenants pay at owner's rate with or without *malikana*, they will, as a matter of convenience, be responsible for paying the State demand on their holdings, and in case of default are liable to ejectment subject to the rules now laid down. In case of ejectment the holding and the revenue liability will revert to the owner.

CHAPTER VII.

REVENUE ASSIGNMENTS.

143. The following statement shows the total and cultivated area held in *inam* and *mafi* by various tribes in each tahsil, the nominal assessment according to the present settlement, the actual demand on account of cesses payable to the State, the total arrears due from the *mafidars* up to re-assessment, and the disposal of these arrears :—

Tahsils.	PETTY MAFIS.			WHOLE VILLAGES.			GRAND TOTAL.		CESSES PAID.									ARREARS.				
	Number of villages.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Number.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Total.	Cultivated.	Nominal jama.	Dami.	Local rate.	Ghair Haziri.	Chanda.	Bhet.	Lag Sadabart.	Nazrana.	Rund.	Lag Kanungul.	Total.	Total.	Remitted.	To be realised.
Pahari	85	3,413	3,306	...	...	...	3,413	3,306	3,824	120	...	567	...	...	...	...	...	...	687	645	125	520
Kama	49	5,305	4,545	8	13,379	10,132	18,664	15,677	16,674	321	199	552	6	2	...	...	...	...	1,280	651	136	515
Dig	67	14,188	10,214	56	113,982	89,013	128,170	99,827	62,878	1,965	173	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,482	33,847	8,053	23,792
Kamber	56	6,893	3,828	37	51,612	31,086	58,505	34,914	40,574	1,268	322	4,939	17	62	...	...	...	...	6,608	28,414	14,800	13,614
Akheygarh	25	956	829	17	20,468	21,086	27,424	21,915	26,627	833	489	331	27	22	3	699	...	...	2,750	6,002	12	5,990
Nagar	83	2,811	2,563	9	5,961	4,737	8,772	7,360	9,769	305	60	443	11	6	...	...	...	60	885	550	7	543
Bharatpur	91	22,021	14,987	29	25,168	14,007	47,189	28,994	34,660	1,083	183	4,765	2	209	...	...	...	...	6,272	29,688	10,190	19,498
Rupbas	51	4,651	4,014	13	19,446	10,859	24,100	14,573	21,527	673	321	494	11	44	...	...	...	...	1,543	3,125	87	3,038
Biyana	39	4,590	3,533	21	26,113	16,076	30,703	19,609	32,833	1,026	547	521	31	45	...	...	...	...	2,170	3,777	47	3,730
Wair	77	8,829	6,964	11	21,506	14,030	30,335	20,994	36,086	1,127	483	370	9	29	...	...	24	...	2,270	9,678	793	8,885
Total	623	73,660	51,783	201	363,635	211,626	377,295	266,109	2,85,152	8,921	2,777	23,884	114	838	3	699	24	60	38,947	1,16,377	34,532	82,123

The following table shows for the whole State the area held by each class of grantees—Thakurs of the 16 *kothris* (descendants of Maharaja Badan Singh), Sinsinwar Jats, Rajputs, Gujars, Brahmins, etc:—

Detail.	THAKURS OF 16 KOTHRIS.			SINSINWAR JATS.			OTHER JATS.			GUJARS.			BRAHMINS.			TEMPLES.			RAJPUTS.			MISCELLANEOUS.			TOTAL.		
	Number of villages.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Number of villages.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Number of villages.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Number of villages.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Number of villages.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Number of villages.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Number of villages.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Number of villages.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Number of villages.	Total area.	Cultivated area.
Petty grantees ...	3	183	129	67	25,438	19,279	38	6,611	5,068	69	4,435	3,106	164	13,635	9,171	123	11,366	9,567	7	540	483	142	11,452	7,980	623	73,660	54,783
Whole villages ...	24	41,868	25,727	86	146,725	110,367	19	17,178	11,964	11	32,437	23,880	23	18,403	12,126	27	37,076	20,879	1	101	69	10	9,827	6,294	201	303,635	211,626
Total ...	27	42,051	25,856	133	172,163	129,666	77	23,789	17,032	70	36,892	26,966	187	32,038	21,397	150	48,442	30,146	8	641	552	152	21,279	14,274	824	377,295	266,409

Thus about 11 per cent. of the *chauth* and revenue-free area is held by the descendants of Badan Singh, 46 per cent. by Jats of the Sinsinwar *Göt* to which the ruling family belongs, 6 per cent. by other Jats, 10 per cent. by Gujars, 9 per cent. by temples, and the remaining 18 per cent. by miscellaneous grantees. If we exclude the *chauth* grants, which represent not revenue-free lands, but lands uniently assessed, the *masi*, *inam* and *jagir* area is decidedly small for a Native state, and the explanation of this has been given in Chapter II, *viz.*, the Chiefs of the last century at least have steadily pursued the policy of resuming such grants under one pretext or another.

144. The common forms of revenue-free grants of land are:—

A.—Land given in charity (*punarth*).

B.—Land given in consideration of service (*chauth*, *inam*, *iwaz-khidmat*).

C.—Other *masi* and *jagir* grants.

These are sub-divided as follows:—

A.—(1) Land given to charitable institutions, such as temples, *Piyas*, etc.

(2) Land given to charitable institutions, such as *Purohits*, *Jotshis*, etc.

B.—(1) Land given to *chauth* holders.

(2) Land given to *inams*, etc.

(3) Land given to menials, etc., such as, *Dom*, barbers, etc.

—(1) Land given to *Kothriband Thakurs*.

(2) Land given to *Dhaus*.

(3) " " to *Chaudhris* (relatives).

(4) " " to other *Sirdars*.

(1). *Punarth* grants are generally the oldest, and were given by the Moghul Emperors, or the Jaipur Rajas, or the Mahrattas, or by the Bharatpur Chiefs for religious purposes to temples, Brahmins, and *Purohits*, etc. Those granted by former rulers before the Bharatpur State was founded were, as a rule, maintained by the Bharatpur Rajas where supported by a deed of grant (*sanad* or *shukka*). The *Masfidars* do not generally now possess the original *sanads* granted to them showing the area, object and conditions of the grant. The present authority generally consists of *chhut chitthis* or orders for release, which are usually to the effect that the *masi* held from of old by the grantees shall be similarly enjoyed hereafter.

(2). The origin of grants in *inam* and *chauth* to secure the services of matchlock-men has been described in Chapter II, as well as the gradual reduction since the time of Jawahir Singh.

(3). The *jagir* grants usually date from the 18th or the beginning of last century, and were originally held on condition of furnishing horses for military service. This system was maintained till the time of Ranjit Singh, but in the reign of Maharaja Balwant Singh these *jagirs* were resumed partly under the pretext that the *jagir* horsemen raided and looted in adjoining territory as explained in Chapter II, and service was given instead in a regiment of horse raised at head-quarters. Owing to recent reductions in the troops, this service, which was hereditary, has now generally ceased, but cash pensions were given to the incumbents brought under reduction. Grants made to foster relations (*dhaus*) or other persons of importance and Court favourites are generally known as *masi kansa*, *i.e.*, grants for maintenance.

145. In past settlements no attempt was made to prepare correct records for *masi* estates and holdings. In the settlement of 1855—57 whole revenue-free estates were not even surveyed, but *masi* holdings in *khalsa* estates were dealt with, except as regards assessment, in the same way as *khalsa* lands; the names and shares of the *Masfidars* were shown, and it was often specified whether the grant was held from the State or the Zamindars. In the settlement of 1890-91 whole estates were surveyed, but no proper records were prepared for them. It appears that there was usually some hesitation about deciding whether the land belonged to the Zamindars or to the *Masfidars*, and the entries were therefore left blank. The record of petty *masis* in *khalsa* estates was also incomplete and unreliable, and the grants from the State and the Zamindars were often confounded. In fact no regular *masi* enquiry was ever held, though the deaths of *Masfidars* were generally

reported by the Patwaris, and orders for mutation to the heirs or for resumption, as the case might be, were passed by the Darbar.

146. It was therefore decided that all grants should now be fully investigated during the settlement, and a special circular, No. 11 of 1898, laying down the principles to be followed in the enquiry was issued in 1898. The following are some of the chief provisions of that circular and the subsequent instructions:—

(1) "*Authority*.—The proper authority for a Mafidar to hold his *mafi* land will be the *shukka* granted to him by any of the Maharajas or by any other authority who was managing the State at the time of giving the *shukka*, and which *shukka* was subsequently recognised by the ruling Chief; also those *shukkās* which were granted by previous Emperors and other high personages, which were subsequently recognized by the Maharajas. If any Mafidar possesses no *shukka*, undisturbed possession since the settlement of *Sambat* 1912 will be considered as proper authority for his holding the *mafi*, if he otherwise satisfies the investigating officer that, although he has got no *shukka*, he has been in possession of the land as original Mafidar or his heir.

"*Explanation*.—The word *shukka* includes *chhut chitthis* or other *daftar* records."

(2). Each grant to be checked with the original *sanads* or *shukka*, or subsequent *chhut chitthi* or orders of release, and also with the entries in the records of previous settlements.

(3). A separate register or form to be prepared for each grant, in which all the information connected with the *mafi* is summarised.

(4). An abstract of the original *sanad* and subsequent orders relating to the grant to be obtained from the State office records and incorporated with the file.

(5). The following points to be specially enquired into:—

(a) Whether the grant is only for life or hereditary; and if hereditary, is the present Mafidar entitled to hold as a descendant of the original grantee?

(b) If the *mafi* is held jointly by several co-sharers, their shares and the area in possession of each to be enquired into and defined.

(c) Is the Mafidar in possession of an area exceeding that originally allotted, allowance being made for variations in the standard of measurement?

"(d) If the grant is a conditional one, are the conditions fully observed?

If the area exceeded that in the original grant or subsequent order of release, or (where there were no such documents forthcoming) if it exceeded the area entered in the records of the first settlement, the excess was generally resumed unless the Mafidars could show good cause to the contrary; but if the difference was less than one *bigha* or than 5 per cent. of the area, it was not taken account of, being accounted for by difference in the methods of measurements. The settlement of the area thus resumed was in the first instance usually made with the Mafidar where he had held long possession and he was entered as owner. If he refused to be responsible for the revenue the settlement was made with the Zamindars of the estate, *thok*, *patti*, or holding from which the *mafi* had been allotted. The resumption was made from uncultivated or *barani* land where such was available, and the orders of resumption fixed the *jama* to be paid according to the village rates.

147. Under the rule of the last two Maharajas resumption of hereditary grants of long standing was frequently ordered on the death of a Mafidar, especially where he left no direct male heir, and advantage was taken of the absence of Mafidars or of their failure to pay the cesses due to the State to effect resumption. Such action as explained in Chapter II caused widespread distrust and dissatisfaction, and finally in 1897 the *nalk* rule (resumption for failure of direct heirs) was abolished and the following rule substituted:—

"*Succession*.—The principles of succession of Hindu or Mahomedan law will apply according to the parties concerned being Hindus or Mahomedans, to all kinds of *mafi*, except A (1), with the restriction that only the male descendants of the original grantee will be recognised as heirs.

"Adoption will not be recognised unless the adopted son is one of the male descendants of the original grantee, and that the previous sanction of the State for such adoption has been obtained. No ascendant of the original grantee or his (ascendants') heir will be recognised as proper heir to the Mafidar either by succession or through adoption.

"If there is no male descendant of the original grantee or successor by adoption under this rule, the *mafi* will revert to the State.

"If any female members of the last Mafidar's family survive him they will be entitled to maintenance during their lifetime.

Progress in the enquiry
up to date.

148. The annexed table shows by tahsils the number of cases enquired into and disposed of:—

Serial No.	Tahsils.						Number of cases instituted.	Number of cases submitted for Settlement Commissioner's final orders.	Number of cases pending.	Number of cases in which final orders were passed by Settlement Commissioner, or sent with his opinion to Council.	Number of cases pending in Settlement Commissioner's Court.
1	Bharatpur	...	...	...	...	...	449	43	406	41	2
2	Wair	...	...	...	...	...	81	2	79	2	...
3	Akheygarh	...	...	...	...	...	59	15	44	12	3
4	Oochain	...	...	...	...	...	22	11	11	11	..
5	Rupbas	...	...	...	...	...	26	17	9	17	...
6	Biyana	...	...	...	...	...	210	...	210	...	...
7	Dig	...	...	...	...	...	296	81	205	80	1
8	Kama	...	...	...	...	...	160	107	53	107	...
9	Nagar	...	...	...	...	...	226	185	41	185	...
10	Pahari	...	...	...	...	...	240	144	96	144	...
11	Kumher	...	...	...	...	...	199	...	199	...	...
	Total	...	...	...	...	...	1,958	603	1,353	599	6

This table shows that out of the 605 cases in which the enquiry has been completed, 599 have been disposed of by me, and only 6 are pending, which have been now transferred to the State Council. There are still 1,353 cases under enquiry in the tahsils or in the Deputy Collectors' offices. These should be completed within the next few months and submitted to the Council for final orders, which should be carefully given effect to in the annual papers.

149. In former settlements the assessment that would be due on *mafi* lands if they were *khalsa* was not worked out. Hence there was no basis on which to calculate the cesses due to the State, which are usually a percentage on the valuation, or for reference in case of dispute between the Mafidars and Zamindars as to the rent or revenue to be paid by the latter. The Mafidars were at liberty to give their lands to cultivators on written lease for a year or term of years or to settle it verbally. This led to great difficulties in cases where the Mafidars were not themselves owners of the land, and the owners frequently appealed to the State to protect them from ejectment or rack-renting by the Mafidars. For the above and other reasons it appeared advisable to work out the assessment of all revenue-free grants. The matter was a delicate one, and to explain how it was disposed of, I quote paras. 127 and 128 of my report on the central tahsils:—

127. I propose to fix a nominal assessment for all revenue-free lands at the same rates as *khalsa* lands. This will not only be convenient as showing the extent to which revenue has been alienated by the State, but will also be of practical utility, as the Patwar cess and local rate (on such grants and at such rate as the Darbar may decide to levy it) will be calculated on such assessment, and in case of resumption owing to failure of heirs, etc.,

this nominal assessment will be enforced. The next question is, to what extent, if any, the State should enforce the nominal assessment as between the Mafidars (including all grantees under that name) and the Zamindars cultivating the revenue-free lands. This point was discussed in paragraphs 42 and 43 of the introduction to last year's report, and in paragraph 9 of the Political Agent's and paragraph 15 of the Agent to the Governor-General's reviews thereof. The matter has been further discussed in the correspondence noted below.

First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General's letter No. 945-C., dated 27th January 1899, to Political Agent.

My letter No. 1-C., dated 12th February 1899.

Political Agent's letter No. 7819, dated 21st February 1899, to First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General.

Where, as sometimes happens, the proprietary rights in the revenue-free grant vest in the grantee and the cultivators are merely the tenants, no question arises, for the Mafidar, like any other owner, can make his own arrangements with the tenants, subject to the general revenue rules of the State.

The difficulty arises in cases where the cultivating Zamindars are owners of the land and the Mafidar (using the word in its widest sense) is only entitled to the *jama*, as frequently happens where the *masi* grant is of recent origin. In such cases the Mafidar is admittedly only entitled to realise revenue (locally expressed in the term Mafidar *sirf bhej ka malik hai*); and the question is, should he have the power of fixing the revenue at his pleasure, or is it to be fixed by the agency of the State, as between the Mafidar and the owner of the land?

The past practice has been that maps and records have been prepared for all revenue-free estates, in the same way as for *khalsa* villages, but the amount of the assessment to be levied by the Mafidar has, except in special cases, been left over to be settled by the Mafidar and the owners. The system, as might be expected, has led to many disputes, and when the dispute came to a head, the State has, especially in the time of the late Maharaja, freely exercised the right to interfere and fix the revenue to which the Mafidar was entitled. It is obvious that when such disputes arise the power to settle them must rest in some tribunal, *viz.*, in the supreme authority in the State, or whomever it may depute for the purpose.

128. The proposals I put forward to meet the difficulty are:—

- (1) a nominal *jama* must in any case be fixed for the calculation of cesses;
- (2) where the owners and the Mafidar wish to continue the present system of settling the annual demand by private arrangement, no interference is necessary;
- (3) should (a) the owners, or (b) the Mafidar, now or at any future time, owing to disputes, appeal to have the demand fixed, then the nominal *jama* now fixed will be given effect to as between them for the term of settlement.

In doing this the State will not be outstepping its authority, departing from past practice, or infringing the rights of either party. At present the Zamindars in *masi* estates almost invariably pay a cash assessment, fixed generally year by year or for a term of years, and the accident of the revenue of their lands being assigned to Mafidars instead of being realised by the State should not deprive them of the right to have the amount of that revenue fixed for the same term and on the same lines as in *khalsa* estates. The system proposed is not only in the interests of the Zamindars, but of a great proportion of the Mafidars as well. Most of the non-resident Mafidars at present receive a much smaller *jama* than the State would demand if the estate were *khalsa*, and are habitually defrauded by the Zamindars. In fact, several of them have recently come forward and petitioned to have the *jama* fixed for twenty years, as in *khalsa* villages.

Of course in fixing the *jama*, any special cesses or privileges which the Mafidar has hitherto enjoyed will be taken into consideration, and each case will be disposed of on its own merits.

The Political Agent and Council cordially accepted these proposals, and para. 5 of the Council's letter No. 1799, dated 14th August 1899, may be quoted here for future reference:—

"5. The Council also agree with the Settlement Commissioner about the assessment of revenue-free lands (paragraph 128 of the report). This should however be clearly mentioned that a Mafidar will have free enjoyment of the increased revenue of a *masi* which might be enhanced by the new assessment, and which might exceed the *jama* (*den*) for which the grant was made, and the State will have no right to it. Also if the Zamindars will not pay the assessed *jama*, they will be treated like Zamindars of *khalsa* land as regards realisation of revenue."

In the time of the late Maharaja, when it was found that the present value exceeded estimated value as entered in the deed of grant, the excess was often resumed by the State. This was a most iniquitous practice, as the

increased value was often due to the Mafidar having expended labour and capital in improving the land; hence in the extract above quoted the Council have made it clear that the grantee should benefit by any increase in assessment, just as he may have to bear the loss consequent on reduction of assessment.

150. In the present settlement, therefore, the assessment of all the revenue free grants has been worked out as in the case of *khalsa* lands. It will serve the following purposes:—

- (1) Local rate—which for revenue-free lands is usually 2 per cent.—and Patwar cess Rs. 3-2-0 per cent. will be calculated on this assessment. *Inam* grants, it should be explained, do not pay local rate.
- (2) In case of resumption this nominal *jama* will be enforced.
- (3) This *jama* may be brought into working if either the Mafidar or the proprietor where the *mafi* and proprietary right are held by different persons, or both so desire.

Except in the case of *inam* or *chauth* grants and of petty *mafis* in which it is usually the land itself and not merely the revenue that has been allotted, the presumption in the case of other revenue-free grants—of whole estates or considerable shares in them—is that the grant does not affect the pre-existing rights of the Zamindars, and that the grantee is entitled merely to the land revenue. In my letters reporting the assessments I have mentioned all the villages in which the *zamindari* and *mafi* rights are held by different persons.

There are in all 49 whole villages and 43 shares in villages in which these conditions exist. Of these I have now, at the wish of one party or both, fixed the demand to be paid by the Zamindars to Mafidars in 38 whole villages and 40 shares of villages, so that there are only 11 whole villages and shares in three in which, at the wish of both parties, the old system will be maintained, and my nominal assessment will be used only for calculating the cesses. In these cases, however, should disputes arise hereafter as to the *jama* to be paid, that nominal assessment should be given effect to. I think all parties have now come to recognise that the fixing of a cash demand for twenty years as in *khalsa* villages is to their ultimate advantage. It has also been arranged that the Zamindars shall, as a rule, pay the cesses due to the State from the Mafidars, and shall in return be paid *hakk mukaddami* or *lambardari* dues by the latter.

Assessment of *chauth* lands in Dig.

151. The origin of the *chauth* system has already been explained. The area of *chauth* in Dig is —

Total area	...	...	...	...	58,929
Cultivated area	...	...	...	...	45,238
New demand	...	...	...	...	22,636

This area has been assessed at three-eighths of the *khalsa* rates. In case of resumption of area the *jama* will be enhanced by the remaining five-eighths, i.e., in the ratio of 5 to 3; e.g., a holding which has now been assessed at Rs. 30 will in case of resumption have to pay Rs. 80, but of course the liability for service will cease. Following the old practice *chauth* lands pay local rate on the actual demand, but Patwar cess on what would be the demand if the land were *khalsa*.

152. In some estates the Lambardars and other influential Zamindars receive small cash grants from the State known as *nankar*. The origin of the system cannot be ascertained with certainty, but the probable object of these allowances seems to have been to utilise the services of the leading men in promoting cultivation, assisting in collecting the land revenue, and generally aiding in the revenue administration. The *nankar* now allowed is of two kinds.

(1) The *nankar* allowed to five influential Meos in Pahari and Nagar is called *chaudhrayat*. These Meos receive from Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 a year. The original intentions have now been lost sight of, and the State gets no return for this expenditure. It is now proposed that these Chaudhris should be utilized as Zaildars as in the Panjab.

As to the remaining *nankar* in some villages only the Lambardars receive it; in others it is shared by all the owners.

The number of estates and the total amount allotted at present in each tahsil is as follows:—

Serial No.	Tahsil.	CHAUDHRI'S NANKAR.		OTHER NANKAR.		TOTAL.	
		Number of villages	Amount.	Number of villages	Amount.	Number of villages.	Amount.
1	Pahari	4	700	4	386	8	1,086
2	Kama .. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Dig ... ..	...	...	6	100	6	100
4	Rumher ... ..	...	...	14	651	14	651
5	Akhegarh ... ..	...	...	49	1,100	49	1,100
6	Nagar	1	200	2	100	3	300
7	Bharatpur ... ..	...	...	12	699	12	699
8	Rupbas ... ..	...	...	28	448	28	448
9	Giyana ... ..	...	...	25	796	25	796
10	Wair ... ..	...	...	37	976	37	976
	Total	5	900	177	5,256	182	6,156

I think this sum, which is now frittered away among several hundred persons, few of whom derive any substantial benefit from it, might be utilised to remunerate Chaudhris to be appointed in each tahsil, in the same way as Zaildars in the Punjab. I therefore propose that in future these payments to bodies of Lambardars or whole villages should cease, unless where there is a very special reason for retaining them, and that in their stead the State allow Rs. 2 per thousand of the *jama* in each tahsil (excluding Nagar and Pahari, where there are already well-paid Chaudhris) to remunerate Chaudhris, who will be appointed from among the most prominent Zamindars with due regard to tribe and local influence and whose duties will be similar to those of Zaildars in the Punjab.

Of course the success of the scheme depends on the right men being selected in the first instance. I have not had time to advise the Political Agent and Council in these selections, in making which regard should be had to (1) possession of old *nankar* grants, (2) representation of the leading tribes and of their chief sections, and (3) personal fitness.

Excluding the present *chaudhrayat* grant, which should be maintained but converted into *zaildari* grants, the present *nankar* comes to Rs. 5,256, which is much more than Rs. 2 per thousand on the new demand would come to. The proceeds of the latter in eight tahsils, excluding Nagar and Pahari, will be about Rs. 3,300. From the fund so formed *inams* averaging Rs. 100 per annum could be given to from two to four selected men in each tahsil according to its size. The gain to the administration,—revenue, police, etc.,—if good men are selected and the system properly worked, will be considerable. What is at present most needed in Bharatpur is to raise the status of the Zamindars, and promote the growth of the sturdy yeoman class, which is found so useful in the Punjab as an intermediary between the Government and the people. There is abundance of good material in the State, but the policy in the past has been to regard the Zamindar as a cow to be milched dry, or as a sponge to be squeezed, and no steps have ever been taken to raise their position. The result is that nothing is done by the agricultural body to assist the administration. The tahsil Chaprasi and the Patwari have to be requisitioned for the most ordinary duties, and the collection of the revenue is left almost entirely in their hands.

153. When all the *masi* cases of a tahsil are finally disposed of, they will be entered in the general register of *masis*. The form of this register has now been fixed and the registers are under preparation. One copy of this register will be kept in the tahsil, one in the revenue office, and one in the Council. All cases of mutation of names hereafter will be noted in this register. A sample of the register has already been fixed and sent to press for printing. The register gives full details of each holding, *viz.*, class of grant, authority, area, shares and shareholders, *résumé* of the orders now passed, etc., and this will render reference to the old files unnecessary except in cases of doubt or dispute on any point.

In the register the *masis* will be classed in the following order :—

- (1) *Chauth*.
- (2) *Inam*.
- (3) *Masi* of *sola kothris*.
- (4) *Masi Punarth*.
- (5) Miscellaneous.

The State Deputy Collectors should complete the investigation of the *masi* cases of their respective circles still pending during this hot weather. Their reports and files of cases left undecided by me can be disposed of by the Council. The work should not be allowed to hang over indefinitely, as it is now well in hand, and it requires only continuity of effort for a few more months to bring it to a successful conclusion. It is only when orders have been passed on the remaining cases, and all the grants as now finally maintained have been entered up in the registers, that the administration will fully realise the beneficial results of the enquiry in reducing into order what was one of the most chaotic and complicated departments of work.

154. The new *masi* registers are in a sense the record-of-rights for *masi* holdings, and it is as important to keep them up to date as if they were record-of-rights of *khalsa* holdings. Hence all changes or mutations owing to death, desertion, absence, etc., etc. should be regularly reported by the Patwaris, and enquired into by the Tahsildars, who will submit the files through the Deputy Collectors for the orders of Council.

All such cases will be decided on separate files and the orders incorporated on the registers. But in the estates held in *inam*, *chauth*, and *masi* by Thakurs of the *Sola Kothris*, all cases of mutation wherein the *masi* is not liable to be resumed according to the State rules, and the disposal of which lies in the powers of Deputy Collectors, will be disposed of by them in a register provided for the purpose similar to the mutation register in *khalsa* estates.

In those estates the Masfidar is generally owner of the land as well as assignee of the revenue, and it is convenient to sanction mutation of the *masi* and proprietary rights at the same time. Where however resumption is proposed, or there is any doubt as to the descent of the heir from the original grantee, a separate file will be prepared and submitted to the Council.

155. On closing this important subject there are two matters to be noted :—

- (1) The tenure of grants held by Dhaus, Chaudhris, and other State Sirdars (C. 2, C. 3, C. 4, above) has still to be defined, and I believe a Special Committee has been appointed to investigate the point.
- (2) There is a growing tendency to treat the large and valuable grants attached to temples as if personal to the Mahant or manager for the time being. Hence the Mahants deal with the *masi* income and other property of the institution as if it were their own, encumber it with their personal debts, and alienate it to cover their personal expenses. The Civil Courts, too, have in some instances attached such income in the execution of decrees, for the satisfaction of which the Mahants were personally responsible. The result is that the proceeds of the grant are diverted from their legitimate purposes, and until the State lays down strict rules on the subject the evil will continue.

CHAPTER VIII.

MISCELLANEOUS.

156. Previous to this settlement the relations between landlord and tenants were never properly defined. Some attempt was made to deal with this question in Captain Nixon's settlement, and tenants are here and there entered in the record as "*maurusi*" (hereditary), or "*kadim*" (of long standing); but owing to the work being left incomplete and unattested, the result was only partial and unsatisfactory.

In the subsequent settlements up to 1890, as no records were prepared, the question was left *in statu quo*. The papers of the 1890 settlement are, as already pointed out, incomplete and unattested. In some places they show tenants as "*kadim*"; in others they enter length of cultivation, and to this extent they have been of some use in the present enquiry. Even now some of the State Sirdars and officials were inclined to deny the existence of any custom by which tenants in Bharatpur could acquire occupancy rights. They relied mainly on the fact that nothing had been done to define such tenants at previous settlements, but this was of course due to the fact that these settlements were only partial ones. The question had been discussed as far back as 1805 by the Political Agent (Captain Walter) with the Council of Regency, and he, relying on certain orders and instructions of Captain Nixon in 1855-57, had maintained that the occupancy status of tenants did exist in Bharatpur. It is admitted on all hands that there exists in many villages a class of tenants, who, by having settled with the founders, or by relationship with them, or by long possession or other causes, are protected from ejectment and entitled to hold at more favourable rents than ordinary year-to-year tenants or cultivators from other villages. The fact that these privileged tenants were not fully recorded hitherto is no argument against their possessing the status claimed, which in practice is frequently, I may almost say generally, conceded to them by the owners themselves.

157. It was decided therefore, in consultation with the State authorities, to take up the question during the attestation of the record. In each estate a separate register was opened of claims for occupancy rights. The names of the owner and tenant, the length of possession as claimed and as proved from the annual papers, the statements of the owner and tenant in brief, were entered, and orders were then passed on each case by the Deputy Collectors or Assistant Settlement Commissioner at the attestation proceedings in the presence of the parties and their co-villagers.

The rule laid down was that those tenants should be held to have acquired occupancy rights—

- (a) who themselves or through their ancestors were entered as occupancy, or old tenants, in the records of 1857 or of 1890;
- (b) whose claims were now admitted by the owners;
- (c) who had established their claims by proving 12 years' continuous occupation of the land without a written lease (*patta*) and by paying at the same rates as the owners.

The Government of India in passing orders on the assessment of the northern tahsils approved of the above principles in the following remarks:— "The recognition of the class of occupancy-tenants, referred to in paragraph 40 of the Introduction, who will pay *malikana* to the owners in addition to the State demand, is also approved by the Government of India."

158. (A). As long as the occupancy tenants pay regularly the State demand and the *malikana* now imposed on them they are entitled to retain possession of their holdings. This right they cannot alienate, but it will pass by descent to their heirs. They may also improve

their lands by sinking wells, etc., without any interference on the part of the owners. But if they fail to pay the *jama* for a year, they will be liable to be ejected on the application of the owners. In such cases a notice will be served on them from the tahsil that if they do not pay the rent due within the fixed period their occupancy rights will lapse. The owners may also sue for enhancement of rent for reasons defined in the new Revenue Manual, but in no case are they authorised to eject such tenants or to realise from them more than the fixed rent without the sanction of the Revenue Courts.

As explained in Chapter V the *malikana* now fixed is usually 1 or 2 annas per rupee. This will not usually be enhanced for the term of settlement unless the holding has been improved by the action of the owner—*e.g.*, if the owner has constructed a well, or by some other cause outside the tenant's exertions. In such cases the rent can be raised to the revenue rate of the class of land *plus* 4 annas per rupee *malikana*, but when enhancement has once been decreed no further suit shall lie for at least 10 years.

(B) By the *kadim* tenants are meant the tenants who had they claimed would probably have acquired occupancy rights in virtue of their length of cultivation and paying at the same rates as owners, but who owing to the above reasons have failed to bring forward their claims. These are now however debarred from claiming the superior status should the owners sue to eject them.

(C) For tenants other than occupancy tenants, the number of years they have occupied the land, whether they hold under a written *patta* or verbal agreement, with the rent actually paid, have been shown in the *khasras* and *kataunnis*; and in future this information will be brought up to date every year, so that in case of claims by tenants for occupancy rights or by owners for ejectment there may be a basis for decision.

158A. The following table shows the number of claims for occupancy rights disposed of in each tahsil by summary order or separate suit and details of the number of cases and area in which claims were successful or otherwise:—

Serial No.	Names of Tahsils.	Detail.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED, WITH THEIR AREA				APPEALS.		
			Instituted.	Number of cases unsuccessful.	Number of cases successful.	Area of cases successful.	Instituted.	Disposed of.	
								Accepted.	Rejected.
1	Pahari	Summarily ...	3,346	202	3,144	27,498	7	1	6
		On separate files ...	86	78	8	103	...	...	...
		Total ...	3,432	280	3,152	27,603	..	...	...
2	Kamra	Summarily ...	3,322	577	2,745	26,463	...	...	...
		On separate files ...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
		Total ...	3,322	577	2,745	26,463	...	...	...
3	Dig	Summarily ...	1,894	844	1,050	9,545	...	...	...
		On separate files ...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1
		Total ...	1,894	844	1,050	9,545	...	...	...
4	Kumher	Summarily ...	1,091	454	637	3,247	...	...	...
		On separate files ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Total ...	1,091	454	637	3,247	...	...	...

Serial No.	Names of Tahsils.	Detail.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED, WITH THEIR AREA.				APPEALS.		
			Instituted.	Number of cases unsuccessful.	Number of cases successful.	Area of cases suc- cessful.	Instituted.	Disposed of.	
								Accepted.	Rejected.
5	Akheygarh ...	Summarily ...	370	117	253	3,085	...	...	...
		On separate files ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Total ...	370	117	253	3,085	...	...	...
6	Nagar ...	Summarily ...	3,330	363	2,967	27,781	...	...	...
		On separate files ...	82	81	1	19	...	...	...
		Total ...	3,412	444	2,968	27,800	...	...	...
7	Bharatpur ...	Summarily ...	999	203	796	5,108	...	...	...
		On separate files ...	12	10	2	264	...	...	...
		Total ...	1,011	213	798	5,372	...	...	...
8	Rupbas ...	Summarily ...	1,443	176	1,267	8,998	...	...	...
		On separate files ...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1
		Total ...	1,443	176	1,267	8,998	2	1	1
9	Biyana ...	Summarily ...	1,501	113	1,388	19,329	...	...	...
		On separate files ...	3	2	1	191	1	1	...
		Total ...	1,504	115	1,389	19,520	...	...	...
10	Wair ...	Summarily ...	796	162	634	4,853	...	...	...
		On separate files ..	2	...	2	19	...	...	...
		Total ...	798	162	636	4,872	...	...	...
	Total ..	Summarily ...	18,692	3,211	14,881	136,812	15	4	11
		On separate files ..	185	171	14	601	...	...	...
		Total ...	18,277	3,382	14,895	137,413	...	...	...

This shows that 8 per cent. of the total cultivated area is under the cultivation of occupancy tenants. The area so held is largest in the Mewat or northern tahsils of Pahari, Kama, Dig, and Nagar, and is not considerable in the central or southern tahsils except Biyana.

In the three northern or Mewat tahsils of Nagar, Pahari, and Kama, the area held in occupancy tenure ranges from 11 to 20 per cent. of the total. Owing to the greater density and energy of the population, and also to the influence of British ideas and the competition of British tenants from Gurgaon, the demand for land is considerable and tenant-right has a recognised-market value. In the central and southern tahsils, on the other hand, the tenants, though encouraged to bring forward their claims to occupancy rights, have shown little disposition to do so. In fact, as was the case in the Punjab at the first regular settlements 45 years ago, the owners are often more willing to concede than the tenants to accept the occupancy or protected status. The movement among tenants in the northern tahsils, to which it spread from British territory, to have their undefined and customary status now defined, is in these tahsils confined to the villages along the east boundary adjoining Agra and Mattra, where land has a higher value. Elsewhere the cultivators have as yet only dimly appreciated the advantages of the occupancy status, while they still, with the memory of

past over-assessments fresh in their minds, shrink from undertaking the responsibility for the land revenue incident to it. Hence the number of claims for occupancy rights in these tahsils has been comparatively few, and the area in which occupancy rights have been allotted is comparatively small. Other reasons for this indifference are—(1) many of the old tenants who, if they had kept a grip of their holdings, would now be entitled to occupancy rights, broke down or disappeared in the famine year; (2) those tenants who remained or who returned owing to the harshness of the revenue system preferred to cultivate from year to year, being afraid to obtain any permanent rights with the corresponding liabilities in the land; (3) in estates held in shares, the owners—especially in Akheygarh—give written leases to the tenants and alter the rent from year to year; (4) the orders passed by the State soon after the famine that the owners should not realise from the tenants more than they paid to the State, though not regularly enforced, gave the tenants a protection against enhancement; (5) a large proportion of the tenants still pay at owner's rates.

I am inclined to think that now that the new assessments have been given out, the relative position of owner and tenant defined, and the right of the former to exact from a non-protected tenant a rent in excess of the State demand clearly recognized, many tenants who have hitherto held back will bring forward their claims to occupancy rights. In fact, I have had numerous cases in which tenants who at the beginning of the operations distinctly disclaimed any such right have subsequently come forward to assert it.

159. Rules for the assessment of areas subject to alluvion or diluvion and to submersion have been framed and incorporated in the Revenue Manual. The area along the courses of the torrential streams—the Banganga and Gambhir—in the southern tahsils is chiefly affected. Hitherto there was no rule on the subject, and villages were paying the revenue of land which had long disappeared, while their neighbours were allowed to hold free of revenue new land formed. In this settlement the existing land under cultivation in the bed of the above streams, known as *khatli*, has been assessed. This land is generally *shamilat*. The cultivation of such land depends less on its quality than on the industry displayed in manuring and irrigating it from holes dug in the river bed. If it is temporarily left uncultivated no revision of the *jama* is necessary, but if the land becomes unculturable owing to deposits of sand, change in the course of the stream, etc., reduction of *jama* now fixed should of course be allowed. On the other hand, if new land fit for cultivation is formed in the bed of a river, it may be assessed at the rates fixed in the settlement for that class of soil. The rules now issued on the subject will apply to 134 villages of Wair (30), Rupbas (34), Akheygarh (6), and Biyana (64).

160. The *lambardari* system, like all other branches of the revenue administration, has hitherto been vague and unsatisfactory.

In *masfi*, *inam* and *chauth* estates Lambardars had never been appointed, and hence there was no proper machinery for the realisation of the State *jama* and other dues, and for the discharge of other executive duties.

The leading Inamis had to perform many public duties without any remuneration. In *khalsa* estates the Lambardars were allowed some remuneration from the State, known as *hakk mokaddami*, calculated at various rates on the *jama*. These rates varied not only from tahsil to tahsil, but from village to village; and though they ranged from Rs. 2-8-0 to 9 per cent. no reason for the variation could be found, except that the rates were usually highest in Jat and Gujar villages. The rates allowed were not given on the full demand, but after making deductions of 10 to 20 per cent. In fact the most perverted ingenuity had been shown in complicating a simple system. This *hakk mokaddami* originally represented the percentage of the profits which the State remitted in favour of the owners or their representatives. Hence in some cases the whole proprietary body still claims to share in it. As the present system of assessment usually leaves one-third of the profits to the owners, it has been held that they have no claim as owners to share in the *hakk mokaddami*, which is a percentage on the *jama* allowed to the Lambardars in return for their services in, and responsibility for, collecting the State demand and for the discharge of other obligations imposed on them by the State.

The number of Lambardars was generally much too high. In fact, in several estates all the owners divided the remuneration, and it was next to impossible to secure their attendance when required, and for the same reason the remuneration was often so low as to afford no real incentive to the proper discharge of their duties. No pains had been taken to select fit men or to define the responsibilities and improve the status of the position. Hence the Lambardars were often among the most impoverished of the co-sharers, and this was a temptation to their eking out a livelihood by illegal means—*e.g.*, misappropriating the *malba*, or defrauding co-sharers and cultivators in collusion with the Patwaris. Moreover, the *hakik mokaddami* allowance was often kept back for years under one pretext or another, and the Lambardars receiving no remuneration lost heart and made no attempt to promote cultivation or assist in the realisation of the State demand.

161. In 1898 the present administration tackled the subject on broad lines, swept away all complications and anomalies, and laid down—

- (1) A uniform rate of Rs. 3-2-0 per cent., or 2 piees per rupee, for the whole State besides the Re. 1-9-0 per cent. from *malba*; but in the Ballabgarh *jagir* the old rate of 5 per cent. has been maintained.
- (2) This rate to be allowed on the revenue collected according as it is paid in.

Some subsidiary arrangements have still to be made for the smooth working of this latter rule, but the measures taken have not only considerably increased the remuneration of the Lambardars in these tahsils, but have also restored their confidence in the intentions of the State to deal fairly by them. As long however as the number of Lambardars continued as excessive and the average remuneration as low as at the beginning of the settlement, no great improvement in their efficiency could be expected. A regular enquiry into the *lambardari* system has now been undertaken village by village, one result of which has been to considerably reduce the numbers by getting rid of men who are self-appointed and have no just claim to the office. Efforts have been made to secure representation of each *patti* and caste, except in cases where the number of Lambardars was already excessive.

No standard has been fixed as to the average *jama* for which a Lambardar should be responsible, but we have aimed at an average approximating to Rs. 500, except where it is necessary to appoint Lambardars by *pattis* or according to castes, in which case the average runs as low as Rs. 200 or Rs. 300.

The reduction of Lambardars has been made only in cases where they were unfit owing to any of the following causes—minority, old age, poverty, misconduct, inefficiency, etc. Newly appointed or self-appointed men have come under reduction before those in whose families the office has long been hereditary. Where the existing Lambardars were not personally unfit owing to the above causes, the present number, even though excessive, has been maintained with the provision that no new appointment will be made on the death of any Lambardar till the required number is reached.

In *masfi* and *chauth* villages also Lambardars have been or will be appointed as in *khalsa* villages. These will be selected from the men who are already carrying on the duties of Lambardars, though not formally appointed, or are otherwise fitted for the office. In *inam* and *chauth* villages *mujrai* at the usual rates will be paid from the Treasury out of the *chauth jama* or the *bhatt*, or absence penalty paid in. In *masfi* villages no cess is usually levied by the State except *dami*, and *mujrai* will be paid from the *malba*, but nearly all of these villages have now, as described in Chapter VII, been assessed for the term of settlement, and in doing so it has been arranged that the Zamindars shall pay the cesses due to the State, but shall receive *lambardari* dues from the Masfidar. Hence it only remains to appoint the Lambardars, and in this selection the Masfidars have been or will be consulted.

162. The following table shows the number of Lambardars, both present and former, and the average *jama* per Lambardar in each tahsil. This multiplied by Rs. 3-2-0 per cent. gives the average *hakik mokaddami* from the State, and by Rs. 1-9-0 per cent. the

remuneration from the *malba*. For the whole State the average *jama* per Lambardar is Rs. 400, and the average remuneration Rs. 18-12-0, *viz.* Rs. 12-8-0 from the State and Rs. 6-4-0 from the *malba*. In Dig, Kumbher and Bharatpur the number of Lambardars is still excessive owing to the predominance of Jat estates in which it was difficult to carry out a reduction.

Statement of Lambardars.

Serial No.	Names of Tahsils.	Number of Lambardars.	Brought under reduction	Newly appointed.	Present number of Lambardars.	Number of Lambardars to be deducted owing to being counted more than once.	Correct number of Lambardars.	New <i>jama</i> .	Average per Lambardar.
1	Pahari	612	103	3	512	74	438	2,31,190	528
2	Kama	463	109	1	355	46	309	1,63,050	528
3	Dig	797	296	36	537	28	509	1,56,592	308
4	Kumbher	797	246	3	554	9	545	1,59,775	293
5	Akheygarh	812	294	89	607	4	603	2,20,752	367
6	Nagar	751	159	16	608	29	579	2,94,675	509
7	Bharatpur	644	179	88	553	2	551	1,75,980	319
8	Rupbas	827	345	67	549	2	547	2,49,907	457
9	Biyana	816	417	180	579	3	576	2,20,327	387
10	Wair	896	301	134	729	18	711	2,30,391	324
	Total	7,415	2,449	617	5,583	215	5,368	21,38,638	400

General remarks on the revenue machinery :

163. The existing machinery of the revenue administration has been referred to in Chapter III.

It consists of—

- (1) two Deputy Collectors on a present pay of Rs. 300 per mensem, each in charge of the five tahsils composing the Dig and Bharatpur *nizamats* respectively. One has his head-quarters at Dig, the other at Bharatpur. Their circles should be exchanged at intervals of two years. Both the present incumbents are capable men, and have a thorough knowledge of all branches of revenue and settlement work ;

- (2) ten Tahsildars (paid from Rs. 80 to Rs. 120 per mensem),—one for each tahsil,—and 13 Naib-Tahsildars, the large tahsils of Nagar, Rupbas, and Wair having each 2 Naib-Tahsildars. The Tahsildars, with a few notable exceptions, are rather above the standard of Native States. They are well paid. Some have very good educational qualifications, and some have been trained in British territory, and I have utilised them as much as possible in the settlement. Great care should be taken to appoint only capable men with a knowledge of revenue work to vacancies that may occur. Till recently the tendency has been to appoint men related to the ruling family, or transfer men from other offices,—*e.g.*, the command of a State regiment, who have absolutely no qualification for the work. Once appointed it is difficult to get rid of them, as local and palace influence in their favour is powerful.

The same remarks apply with even greater force to the selection of Naib-Tahsildars from whom the Tahsildars should ordinarily be recruited. Recently, at the suggestion of the Darbar, I held an examination of the

(c) Naib-Tahsildars.

Naib-Tahsildars who had previously been put through a course of six months' training in settlement and revenue work. Of 13 who appeared, only 4 passed, 4 failed, but not so badly as not to be given another chance of qualifying, while the remaining 5 failed hopelessly—in fact showed the most astonishing ignorance of their every-day duties. The State has now dispensed with their services. Those of them who have special claims on the State will be provided for elsewhere, and the vacant posts have been given to qualified candidates. Three of the present Naib-Tahsildars are men who have been Sadar Munsarims in the settlement, and these should prove efficient men.

- (3) Kanungos and Patwaris. The action taken to improve this agency has been fully described in Chapter III. It is decidedly above the average of Native States as regards efficiency.

164. The State is therefore now in possession of all the machinery required to carry on the revenue administration efficiently and to secure the maintenance of the records up to date. Rules for Patwaris and Kanungos, as finally amended according to the experience gained in the last four years, have now been issued. A Revenue Manual explaining the system as now established, and embodying rules for the future guidance of Revenue Courts and offices, has been drafted, after a model furnished by me, by Munshi Mahmud Husain, and has been sent on to the Council for such addition and amendments as may be necessary before it is finally issued. It deals with the following subjects, to each of which a separate chapter is given:—

- I.—Jurisdiction.
- II.—Rights of the State and agriculturists, rules for the acquisition of land and payment of compensation.
- III.—Transfers of proprietary or occupancy right by sale, mortgage, gift, etc.
- IV.—Assessment and distribution of the land revenue.
- V.—Cesses due from *khalsa*, *istamrar* and *mafi* lands.
- VI.—Realisation of revenue, cesses, and arrears; coercive processes.
- VII.—Transfer of holdings owing to desertion or arrears.
- VIII.—Landlord and tenant.
- IX.—Lambardars—their rights, duties, etc.
- X.—*Malba*—rules as to its disposal.
- XI.—*Mafi* grants from the State or the Zamindars.
- XII.—Di-alluvion rules and fluctuating assessment of *dahri* on other lands.
- XIII.—Boundaries and deep-stream rule.
- XIV.—Partition.
- XV.—Miscellaneous.
- XVI.—Procedure in Revenue Courts.
- XVII.—Miscellaneous Revenue Departments.

The form of the annual records has also been defined, and the statements shown in the appendix have been framed so as to embody the necessary statistical information from year to year in a form corresponding as nearly as possible with that prescribed by the Government of India. There should, therefore, be no difficulty in supplying annual agricultural statistics, which will also be very useful to the State, as indicating agricultural progress or the reverse. The Political Agent and State Council will, I trust, see that the principles on which the present settlement has been carried out, are adhered to, at least in essentials, and that no alterations are made without good cause being shown. One most satisfactory result of the settlement has been to restore confidence to the people, and any action which might shake that confidence should be studiously avoided.

165. In Chapter III, I have referred to the excellent work done by Munshi Hira Singh, whose services were lent to me in September 1897 by the Punjab Government, and who now remains on as Revenue Deputy Collector. His colleague, Munshi Mahmud

Husain, has been Deputy Collector since 1894, and under me carried on the settlement work of four tahsils. He has shown both zeal and capacity, and is a very useful State official, but his judgment is now and again rather hasty. If the two Deputy Collectors work in harmony with one another, the revenue administration can be worked smoothly and efficiently; and I trust the Political Agent and Council will insist on this. Mr. Pyster has worked since January 1897, and I could not have had a more loyal or hardworking assistant. He now takes up a similar appointment in the Indore State.

166. The total expenditure has been Rs. 3,08,597-6-3 up to the close of the operations on 31st March, and this provides for a sum of Rs. 2,500 to meet the cost of printing this report and other miscellaneous items. The total income is Rs. 47,122-10-0, the chief item of which is Rs. 37,584 for mutation fees, part of which has still to be realised. Thus the net cost of the operations is in round numbers Rs. 2,61,000, or less than one-ninth of one year's demand on the area settled. In the Punjab and North-West Provinces the cost of a settlement is usually from one-half to one-third of one year's demand. I may claim, therefore, that the settlement has been carried out expeditiously and cheaply. The character of the work done can only be tested by experience, but I have no hesitation in saying that it is an immense improvement on the system, or rather the chaos, we were confronted with in starting the operations.

The cost of the settlement will be made good by the enhanced demand of three harvests. In Alwar the settlement of an equal area paying an equal *jama* has cost $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs more than in Bharatpur; the sole reason being that over a lakh of rupees and three years were wasted in an ineffectual attempt to carry out the work by a cheap but inefficient supervising agency. The Bharatpur State by adopting a proper system from the start has been saved that waste of time and money.

167. This report, I fear, runs to excessive length, and possibly some subjects may have been left unnoticed, while others may have been discussed with needless detail. For this my apology must be that, in trying to complete it before leaving the State, I have had no leisure to compress or revise it. The difficulty hitherto in Bharatpur has been that except for an antiquated Gazetteer compiled thirty years ago, there was absolutely no other authoritative account of the State and its administration. This blank I have attempted to fill up as regards the land-revenue administration, which is the most important of all. The settlement throughout has been much facilitated by the cordial support I received from the Political Agent, Lieut.-Col. Herbert, now Resident in Gwalior, and from the State Council. Of the latter, I am chiefly indebted to Rai Bahadur Munshi Sohan Lal, who, as an old Revenue and Settlement officer in the Punjab and Bikaner, was most anxious to help in improving the condition of the Zamindars and placing the revenue system on a sound basis.

If the settlement now completed contributes to both of these ends, I shall look back upon the time and the labour bestowed upon it as not spent in vain.

M. F. O'DWYER,
Settlement Commissioner, Alwar and Bharatpur.

ALWAR, 29th March 1901.

APPENDICES.

Bharatpur State.

Tahsil

Area Statement of

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24									
Sambat and year.	Total area.	Rund or Banni—State property.	UNCULTURABLE.			CULTURABLE.			DETAIL OF THE CULTIVATED AREA SHOWN IN COLUMN 21 OF THE CROP STATEMENT ACCORDING TO THE CLASSES SHOWN IN JAMABANDI.			Total cropped area of both harvests.	Detail of crops sown on area entered in column 10.	Working.	Not working.	Decrease of wells that cannot irrigate, having gone out of work, etc., etc.	Increase.				Number of Wells at the end of the year.	Not working.	Working, including those shown in column 19.	Number of Khann wells and Dhers working at the end of the year.	Number of Dhennkhis working in the present year.	REMARKS.						
			Unculturable State Property.	Hills.	Others.	Total unculturable.	Fallow of 3 years.	Other Bungal State property.	Total culturable.	Classes of soil.	Area.						Total cropped area of both harvests.	Detail of crops sown on area entered in column 10.	Working.	Not working.							Decrease of wells that cannot irrigate, having gone out of work, etc., etc.	Wells of last year.	Ufada wells set working after repairs.	Wells shown in column 16 set working.	Working, including those shown in column 19.	Not working.

- NOTE.—(1) The grand total of column 11 would agree with that of column 22 of the Rabi crop statement, but the classes of soil would not agree, as in the crop statement those classes of soils that actually exist on the spot will be shown.
- (2) The Khalsa figures to be shown in black and the part Malt entries in red ink.
- (3) In column 13 the cropped area according to the permanent classes of soil shown in column 10 should be entered.
- (4) The wells not working means that, though the wells were fit for irrigating, but owing to bitter water, want of cultivation, excessive rains, filling up of dahrs or canals, they were not used during the year.
- (5) In the first year the entry of columns 14 and 15 will be according to the settlement entry, which, after taking into account the increase or decrease, must agree to entries in columns 20 and 21. In the same way, in the next year, the entry of columns 20 and 21 will be made in columns 11 and 15.

PARTICULARS.	Food Crops.										Non-Food Crops.										REMARKS.
	Maizo.	Bajra.	Jawar.	Rice.	Urda, Mung, Moth, Masina.	Garden crops.	Spices, Chillies, etc.	Vegetable and other food crops.	Total food crops.	Cotton.	Flax.	Other fibre crops.	Sugar-cane.	Til.	Charri, including Gawar.	Indigo.	Bhugg.	Other non-food crops.	Total non-food crops.	Total food and non-food crops.	
Irrigated—Dabri, Nahri and Chahi of all classes
Barani
Total

NOTE.—Khalsa in black and mafi in red ink.
The mica of State property exempted from assessment to be included in Khalsa area.

Crop Statement for Rabi of

Tahsil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
PARTICULARS.	Food Crops.										Non-food Crops.										REMARKS.			
	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Gojra (barley and wheat).	Bojar (barley and gram).	Gochni (wheat and gram).	Garden crops.	Zira, Dhania and other spices.	Vegetables and other food crops.	Total food crops.	Castor-seeds.	Taramira.	Oil seeds (Sarsiaf).	Tobacco.	Poppy.	Other non-food crops.	Total non-food crops.	Total food and non-food crops.	Total cropped area of both harvests.	Less area of double and treble crops.	Actual area under crop.	Fallow up to 3 years.	Total of area of columns 22 and 23.	
Irrigated.	Chahi of all kinds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Dahri and Nahri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Harani	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Note.—Khalas in black and Mahi in red ink.
The area of State property exempted from assessment to be included in Khalas area.

[illegible]

NOTE.—(1) The order and amount of suspension, if any, may be quoted in the column of remarks.

(1) The order and amount of suspension, if any, may be quoted in the column or columns headed "SUSPENSION".

(2) Reductions given on account of area utilised for certain purposes or a new grant be shown in column 5.

(2) Instructions given or account of area utilised for certain purposes of a new Forest in column D.

(3) If owing to the distribution and collection of Tineavi being in progress the Tineavi entries cannot be made up to 15th August, it would be the duty of the Kanungo to make these entries carefully with the help of the Moharrir Jati, and the latter would be responsible for the correctness of the figures.

Statement showing yearly totals of mutations of proprietary rights and the rights of occupancy tenants of Tahsil

Bharatpur State.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32		
Sambit and year.	Details of rights transferred.	MUTATIONS OF PARTITION.						Number of mutations by succession.	MUTATIONS BY SALES AND MORTGAGES OR POSSESSION BY MEANS OF GIFT.																	REDEMPTION OF MORTGAGE.				Other mutations not detailed in this Statement.	Amount of fees levied on sanctioned mutations of sales and mortgages.	Palwaris' dues.	Remarks.
		Former.	Present.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Jama or rent.	BY ORDER OF THE COURT.				BY PRIVATE ARRANGEMENT.								Number of mutations.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Redemption-money.											
							Sale.		Mortgage.		Gift.		Sale.	Mortgage.				Gift.															
							Number of mutations.		Area transferred.	Amount of decree.	Number of mutations.	Area transferred.		Amount of decree.	Number of mutations.	Area transferred.	Number of mutations.						Area transferred.	Mortgage-money.	Number of mutations.	Area transferred.							
	Ownership																																
	Occupancy holdings.																																
	Total																																

NOTE.—(1) Separate entries will be made for proprietary and occupancy holdings in column 2.

(2) Jama in case of proprietary holdings and rent in that of occupancy holdings will be shown.

(3) Mutations not entered in Mutation Register or not decided in separate files will not be taken into account here.

(4) The column "By order of the Court" does not cover the mutations caused by confiscation of the property of an accused in criminal offence, or those by order of the Revenue Court—the property of a defaulter being transferred to another person permanently or for a certain period, or those by order of the Civil Court, the property of a debtor being attached temporarily. Other temporary mutations will be shown with redemptions and permanent ones with sales.

APPENDIX A.

Table showing the transfers of villages from one tahsil to another.

Serial No.	Names of Tahsil from which the villages transferred.	Names of Tahsil to which the villages transferred.	Names of villages.	Number of villages.
1	Pahari	Kama	Jurabri.	1
2	Dig	Kama	Murar, Ghata, and Barauli Dhan.	3
3	Dig	Akheygarh	Aiuchera.	1
4	Kumher	Akheygarh	Ronija, Epiluri, Badhira, and Usir.	4
5	Kumher	Bharatpur	Gadhi Zalim Singh.	1
6	Bharatpur	Kuraber	Sogar, Adbar, Nagla Jiwua, and Ghana Bhandor.	4
7	Akheygarh	Wair	Sawantpurah, Alipur, Nagla Bhavla, Naranli, Nowalpur, Maharajpur, Mohammadpur, Khohra, Jaspur, Bhabikar, Arazi Bhabikar, Jhatanti Pathaina, and Khadrana.	14
8	Wair	Akheygarh	Parawara, Berkha, Hantra, Arodah, Jharhki, Pipli, Notha, Nurpur, Barha, Utardah, and Kharrampur.	11

On reduction of the Oochain tahsil its villages were transferred to the Akheygarh and Rupbas tahsils as shown below :—

(A) 27 villages transferred to the Akheygarh tahsil :—Karai, Banowan, Lohara, Bajohra, Basia Kalan, Kuthin Kalan, Kuthin Khurd, Gagwana, Chainpura, Bachhaodi, Pingora, Gobra, Honta, Jahangirpur, Atari, Alipur, Thula, Lakhanpur Jat, Basia Ubhey, Mai, Nagla Mai, Dabaoli, Shahpur, Paharsar, Bahlot, Dahra, and Nagla Bhua.

(B) 69 villages transferred to the Rupbas tahsil :—Mamtanli, Shahua, Baseri, Andhiari, Bahera, Kewasi, Nekpur, Rahimpur, Seri Kalan, Seri Khurd, Nagla Bija, Nagla Trian Mafi, Nagla Trian Khalsa, Pannai, Nagla Kaliaan Kundher, Hadauli, Madhera, Nagla Tikaita, Patti Tibya, Kasba Oochain, Patti Jungla, Patti Gilgilia, Patti Para, Bharkoli, Karnira, Tahra, Jaicholi, Fatehpur, Bhont Kharka, Rund Kharka, Gahla, Charari, Gujar, Pichuna, Nagla Bhagwantpura, Sonoti, Kurka, Sheopura, Bosoli, Kanjoli, Khatipur, Kakrana, Mandapura, Sri Nagar, Mandauli, Nibhera, Katehra, Rudawal, Jarnala, Bhawanpura, Dumaria, Karanpura, Charari Dang, Morani, Sirond, Lakhanpur Lodha, Ranpur, Gujar Balai, Saimra, Sabalpur, Ratawa, Khurasa, Nagla Rohi, Bhainsena, Madariapura, Mahraoli, Sikroda and Bara.

On reduction of the Gopalgarh tahsil its villages were transferred to the Pahari and Nagar tahsils as shown below :—

(A) 47 villages transferred to the Pahari tahsil :—Tilakpuri, Amroka, Unehki, Jatauli, Matoki, Badha, Nagla Aram Singh, Iklehra, Sohampur Patti, Kaliaan, Ghagwari, Ranp, Bhawapur Khori, Abhaipur, Raibka, Danisbpur, Chandoopura, Maliki, Bhadaka, Gopalgarh, Joat Kadar, Joat Gawanti, Joat Sadrudin, Andhwari, Joat Daria, Joat Ruhallah, Joat Paproh, Paproh, Dabrah, Joat Pahari, Joatri Pipal, Pirka, Bhojpur, Khanpur, Ardunka, Kankarka, Bakhshuka, Pali, Ladunka, Madhogarh, Mukatpur, Kherla Nan Abad, Pipoli, Pipal Khera, Shah Doongar, Kaithwara, and Dundri.

(B) 90 villages transferred to the Nagar tahsil :—Patka, Dabhaoli, Padalwas, Banaini Chanda, Banaini Dhonka, Banaini Khwaju Ratna, Banaini Garhi, Banaini Toda, Dwarkapur Seti, Gorkeen, Gobindpur, Alam Shahka, Baghoka, Barkhera, Sirthla, Berha, Dawrala, Bhuraka Jatinal, Ram Singhpur Palki, Khesti, Domraki, Alghani, Gulmani, Jaisra, Jaisri, Raniata, Atbi, Chhapar, Tajpur, Hasaipur, Jhanjar, Wazir Kheri, Udeypur Nihaon, Laban, Sohanka, Jalalpur, Labarwarah, Bhanakpuri, Hayatpur, Khohri, Manapuri, Lodhpuri, Nagla Bhuria, Dhanota, Akbarpur, Teeski, Rustampur, Thukri, Danialpur Kheraka, Khera Chhajja, Mahraipur, Shahawli, Bodli, Ghamurki, Harrajki, Jhantli, Sohampur Patti, Saidwara Patti, Kutabpur Patti, Sikari Patti, Kamilpur Patti, Bela, Rampur Posti, Kharkhari Teli, Dabak, Golki, Sri Rampur Doongri, Bonai, Imdari, Baldeobas, Balka, Bas Sabit, Behari, Raipur Sukhaiti, Nagla Bhongra, Lurhka, Kakrala, Jagir Gulpurha, Gulpurha, Biebleri Beg Paharhi, Bhoapur Garhi, Nagal, Rasulpur, Rupbas, Jatbas, Orhki Mohanda, Orhki Dalla, Orhki Nirbhai and Kolari.

Serial No.	Names of Tahsils.	Detail.	Total area.	STATE JUNGLE.		UNCULTURABLE.		Culturable.	New fallow.
				Rund.	Others.	Hills.	Others.		
1	Pahari	Khalsa... ..	236,264	278	1,647	16,316	28,290	15,701	2,934
		Mafi	3,412	...	...	...	21	68	57
2	Kama	Khalsa	201,017	524	354	20,133	15,705	13,916	9,789
		Mafi	18,671	...	48	1,763	1,172	625	816
3	Dig	Khalsa	187,594	4,011	3,005	12,863	11,255	36,727	15,361
		Chauth	58,866	...	50	606	2,826	7,182	5,073
		Istamrar	14,823	...	...	7	504	2,342	1,012
		Mafi	53,393	...	...	...	1,821	5,433	5,649
4	Kumher... ..	Khalsa	239,956	15,889	3,202	144	12,712	46,002	21,133
		Mafi	53,243	...	121	78	2,603	12,821	4,701
5	Alheygarh'	Khalsa	248,926	427	280	...	19,179	23,464	19,496
		Mafi	27,442	13	75	...	1,291	1,192	1,297
6	Nagar... ..	Khalsa	284,005	948	1,254	12,808	18,286	30,041	20,572
		Mafi	8,733	...	89	...	377	787	748
7	Bharatpur	Khalsa	271,374	25,553	9,746	288	12,146	59,735	9,042
		Mafi	47,279	...	298	103	1,655	12,069	2,165
8	Rupbas	Khalsa	321,781	8,814	1,314	20,580	16,238	75,751	12,985
		Mafi	24,195	...	109	81	1,199	61	1,016
9	Biyana	Khalsa	470,390	290	2,376	147,619	87,905	59,423	15,873
		Mafi	30,638	...	20	2,480	2,790	3,141	1,095
10	Wair	Khalsa	349,988	1,367	3,884	47,205	31,689	46,876	18,059
		Istamrar	3,184	...	...	...	983	86	16
		Mafi	80,281	...	1,332	1,129	685	2,347	1,190
Total	...	Khalsa	2,811,288	58,101	27,062	277,956	247,100	407,639	145,244
		Chauth... ..	53,866	...	50	606	2,826	7,182	5,073
		Istamrar	17,937	...	...	7	1,487	2,429	1,028
		Mafi	302,337	13	2,092	5,629	13,764	44,637	18,734
GRAND TOTAL ...			3,190,448	58,114	29,204	284,198	265,477	461,886	170,079

DIX B.

Ragba for Sambat 1957.

CHANI.			SAIRABA.				Khariti.	BARANI.			Total cultivated.
Present.	Former.	Total.	Present.	Former.	Barishi.	Total.		Barani.	Bhur.	Total.	
6,718	6,503	13,221	24,488	48,573	10,306	83,367	...	69,381	5,119	74,500	171,088
181	19	200	891	1,167	83	2,141	...	919	6	925	3,266
6,580	16,198	22,778	3,392	18,214	11,601	33,207	...	75,645	8,966	84,611	140,596
1,372	2,071	3,443	223	2,705	1,388	4,316	...	5,445	1,043	6,488	14,247
12,717	9,220	21,937	1,179	5,622	11,034	17,835	...	59,181	5,410	64,600	104,372
6,219	3,953	10,172	686	824	1,196	2,706	...	29,215	1,036	30,251	43,129
2,250	1,394	3,644	...	...	...	...	...	7,201	113	7,314	10,038
5,829	5,439	11,268	137	1,235	786	2,158	...	26,715	349	27,064	40,400
25,023	19,150	44,173	4	419	2	425	...	94,415	1,861	96,276	140,874
7,674	3,877	11,551	2	13	...	15	...	25,945	413	26,358	37,924
40,332	9,771	50,103	8,416	865	2	9,283	...	129,056	3,638	132,694	192,080
6,277	804	7,081	1,540	...	...	1,540	4	14,668	281	14,949	23,574
15,387	5,672	21,059	46,286	16,401	4,630	67,317	...	98,838	12,882	111,720	200,036
636	261	897	2,226	344	73	2,643	...	2,764	428	3,192	6,732
26,104	14,031	40,225	18,686	4,169	4	22,879	...	85,385	3,375	91,760	154,864
4,737	3,677	8,414	1,850	528	...	2,378	...	19,989	258	20,247	31,039
21,680	16,880	38,560	29,913	30,036	673	60,622	430	74,593	11,899	86,492	186,104
3,288	1,129	4,417	1,889	4,010	56	6,855	52	3,875	437	4,312	15,636
39,093	10,561	49,654	17,174	4,303	1,451	22,928	686	67,401	16,235	83,636	156,904
6,230	1,787	8,017	2,418	1,409	7	3,834	48	8,200	1,063	9,263	21,162
52,223	17,748	69,971	12,554	2,131	275	14,960	648	93,245	22,084	115,329	200,908
674	34	708	...	...	...	...	5	1,327	9	1,336	2,049
7,450	2,543	9,993	2,429	273	19	2,721	20	9,715	949	10,664	23,399
245,947	125,734	371,681	162,092	130,753	30,978	332,823	1,764	850,140	91,478	941,618	1,647,886
6,219	3,953	10,172	686	824	1,196	2,706	...	29,215	1,036	30,251	43,129
2,924	1,428	4,352	...	...	...	...	5	8,528	122	8,650	13,005
43,674	21,607	65,281	13,605	12,584	2,412	28,601	124	118,235	5,227	123,462	217,468
298,764	152,722	451,486	176,383	144,161	43,586	364,130	1,893	1,006,118	97,863	1,103,981	1,921,490

Serial No.	Names of Tahsils.		KHARIF.									
			Cotton.	Bajra.	Jawar.	Masina.	Gawar Charri.	Til.	Dhan (Rice).	Sugar-cane.	Others.	Total.
1	Pahari ...	Khalsa ...	13,132	41,064	40,769	7,065	13,359	12,759	47	...	1,857	130,052
		Mafi ...	300	329	1,113	128	100	333	...	...	32	3,295
2	Kama ...	Khalsa ...	9,186	47,769	25,501	6,502	10,269	2,946	...	...	1,855	104,028
		Mafi ...	1,161	4,029	2,456	630	1,059	402	8	...	393	10,138
3	Dig ...	Khalsa ...	5,412	19,476	25,181	7,682	4,252	3,426	...	...	616	66,045
		Istamrar	255	1,597	2,952	1,366	460	258	...	...	56	6,950
		Chauth...	1,968	5,815	11,459	4,803	2,115	1,344	...	...	163	27,667
		Mafi ...	1,564	3,639	12,962	3,693	1,543	1,650	...	...	206	25,269
4	Kumher ...	Khalsa ...	2,748	15,424	40,753	16,417	5,353	5,738	...	2	551	86,086
		Mafi ...	481	4,998	11,229	5,174	1,385	1,507	...	...	187	24,961
5	Akheygarh ...	Khalsa ...	7,371	49,373	40,041	34,953	8,199	7,509	...	...	2,147	149,593
		Mafi ...	399	6,039	3,743	4,816	1,195	644	...	...	396	1,732
6	Nagar ...	Khalsa ...	8,129	46,293	42,163	12,390	13,387	13,649	467	...	1,730	138,208
		Mafi ...	335	1,569	1,456	375	485	218	...	...	119	4,587
7	Bharatpur ...	Khalsa ...	2,029	19,827	37,339	16,374	4,862	3,887	3	19	1,661	86,001
		Mafi ...	457	4,276	9,506	3,722	1,018	997	0	...	435	20,447
8	Rupbas ...	Khalsa ...	8,225	76,199	13,705	14,149	9,169	18,024	1	210	5,666	145,248
		Mafi ...	760	6,531	995	1,326	903	1,227	...	6	201	11,949
9	Biyana ...	Khalsa ...	14,968	62,280	12,785	21,977	6,711	6,170	26	53	1,829	129,799
		Mafi ...	2,709	5,957	3,139	2,397	1,468	690	...	7	252	16,619
10	Wair ...	Khalsa ...	15,835	67,125	27,427	28,509	7,118	6,743	...	...	2,626	155,383
		Istamrar	225	660	236	272	109	45	...	...	36	1,583
		Mafi ...	2,588	6,231	3,695	2,550	847	727	3	...	230	16,371
		Total ...	87,035	444,830	305,664	169,018	82,679	80,851	544	284	20,438	1,191,343
	Total ...	Istamrar	480	2,257	3,185	1,638	575	303	...	...	92	8,533
		Chauth...	1,968	5,815	11,459	4,803	2,115	1,344	...	...	163	27,667
		Mafi ...	10,154	43,600	50,295	21,814	10,093	8,431	17	13	2,451	149,868
		Total ...	99,637	496,502	370,606	200,273	95,462	90,929	561	297	23,144	1,377,411

DIX C.

for Sambat 1937.

RABI.											Total of both Crops.
Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Bejra.	Gochani.	Gojra.	Sarson, Tarn (Oil-seeds).	Tobacco.	Zira.	Others.	Total.	
7,407	11,766	28,618	12,310	6,600	1,370	8,520	335	29	1,195	77,150	207,202
167	229	637	242	154	10	160	12	...	47	1,667	3,962
5,119	9,967	37,245	8,319	1,956	69	3,979	136	31	244	67,065	171,093
555	1,262	3,245	1,010	179	22	536	19	...	54	6,882	17,020
4,173	8,486	25,917	2,417	190	149	2,924	464	159	362	45,241	111,286
575	1,581	1,527	103	...	16	255	32	...	32	4,121	11,071
2,007	4,144	8,839	444	145	48	882	107	36	88	16,690	44,357
2,150	3,296	8,336	1,135	52	199	1,017	33	32	149	16,399	41,668
10,289	13,429	25,699	92	24	99	6,553	239	143	322	56,889	143,875
2,971	4,078	4,881	16	5	109	1,175	82	15	206	13,538	38,409
9,511	20,927	13,287	873	315	1,038	1,577	980	1,358	1,207	51,073	200,666
1,743	3,586	1,133	119	82	181	156	102	128	297	7,527	24,759
9,706	14,790	34,454	7,377	7,555	1,245	7,087	700	54	1,305	81,573	222,781
633	731	717	414	266	76	382	18	5	76	3,318	7,905
16,768	12,623	23,006	6,846	5,519	2,845	4,541	106	107	1,474	73,865	159,864
2,026	2,086	4,860	1,146	...	231	910	17	...	299	11,574	32,021
10,232	18,689	11,022	9,878	2,267	3,465	7,819	515	2,674	1,106	67,667	212,915
1,427	2,297	391	452	61	392	591	35	195	95	5,936	17,885
10,714	17,161	8,677	4,377	375	2,389	2,230	172	5,979	1,835	53,909	183,708
1,963	2,406	1,343	591	53	121	180	...	872	426	7,955	24,574
8,040	20,476	16,453	3,067	1,138	1,293	521	863	6,440	2,974	61,265	216,648
152	237	90	8	...	...	1	5	20	29	512	2,125
1,313	3,191	2,380	507	227	40	84	65	543	319	8,569	25,049
91,959	148,314	223,378	55,456	26,269	13,962	45,851	4,510	16,974	12,024	6,38,697	1630,040
727	1,818	1,617	111	...	16	256	37	20	61	4,063	13,197
2,007	4,144	8,839	444	145	48	882	107	36	38	16,690	44,357
14,918	23,162	27,923	5,632	1,079	1,390	5,191	383	1,790	1,967	83,465	233,333
109,641	177,438	261,757	61,643	27,493	15,416	52,180	5,037	18,820	14,090	743,515	2,120,923

Area Statement of Tahsils in Bharatpur State

Serial No.	Names of Tahsils.	Details.	Total area.	Every sort of non-culturable.	DETAILS OF						
					Fallow.		Total cultivated.	Chahi.			
					Old.	New.		Permanent Hal.	Permanent Sabjk.	Temporary.	Total.
1	Pahari ...	{ Khalsa ... Mafi ...	236,057 3,413	46,197 27	17,024 67	2,627 13	169,909 3,306	7,468 98	923 7	4,086 8	12,477 113
		Total	239,470	46,514	17,091	2,640	173,215	7,566	930	4,094	12,590
2	Kama ...	{ Khalsa ... Mafi ...	202,042 16,778	37,031 2,908	15,851 633	2,453 218	147,597 12,939	10,670 1,881	6,482 695	773 36	17,925 2,615
		Total ...	219,720	39,938	16,534	2,712	160,536	12,551	7,177	809	20,540
3	Dig ...	{ Khalsa ... Chauth ... Istamarar ... Mafi ...	186,757 55,929 15,609 53,675	35,899 3,509 1,389 1,821	37,891 8,358 2,898 7,319	5,531 1,821 199 1,114	107,430 47,238 11,111 43,115	14,933 8,221 2,581 7,117	4,987 2,626 651 3,772	658 318 312 833	20,518 11,167 3,517 11,322
		Total ...	314,961	42,621	56,469	8,671	207,200	32,825	11,036	2,121	16,582
4	Kamber ...	{ Khalsa ... Mafi ...	239,249 58,507	32,015 2,852	60,679 17,663	12,678 3,076	133,877 31,914	25,142 6,593	15,381 2,918	773 188	41,246 10,029
		Total ...	297,756	34,867	78,342	15,754	165,791	31,735	18,299	961	51,275
5	Akheygarh ...	{ Khalsa ... Mafi ...	218,817 27,424	13,937 1,368	31,810 2,200	22,200 1,941	180,900 21,915	35,384 5,550	9,485 1,023	436 61	46,309 6,634
		Total ..	276,271	15,305	34,010	24,141	202,815	41,935	10,508	497	52,943
6	Nagar ...	{ Khalsa ... Mafi ...	284,061 8,772	33,320 473	34,013 918	4,411 81	212,317 7,300	15,909 602	907 74	3,782 202	20,598 878
		Total ...	292,833	33,793	34,931	4,492	219,617	16,511	981	3,982	21,476
7	Bharatpur ...	{ Khalsa ... Mafi ...	271,374 47,279	27,827 2,288	107,544 13,406	11,968 2,634	124,025 28,951	23,041 4,799	15,367 3,875	753 171	39,161 8,846
		Total ...	318,653	30,115	120,950	14,602	152,976	27,840	19,242	924	48,006
8	Rupbas ...	{ Khalsa ... Mafi ...	321,784 24,195	45,619 1,361	99,197 7,447	9,435 411	167,503 14,973	15,015 2,011	9,927 1,052	1,689 54	26,631 3,117
		Total ...	345,979	47,013	106,644	9,846	182,476	17,026	10,979	1,743	29,748
9	Biyana ...	{ Khalsa ... Mafi ...	470,419 30,763	211,785 5,334	75,146 4,601	11,525 1,109	141,963 19,609	35,245 5,970	7,598 1,170	863 75	43,706 7,215
		Total ...	501,122	217,169	79,747	12,634	161,572	41,215	8,768	938	50,921
10	Wair ...	{ Khalsa ... Istamarar ... Mafi ...	357,513 3,131 22,462	86,127 979 1,927	59,529 127 2,381	24,138 59 1,906	187,749 1,939 16,248	48,891 606 4,251	15,580 55 1,588	767 9 41	64,738 670 5,880
		Total ...	383,139	89,093	62,037	26,103	205,966	53,218	17,223	817	71,288
	Total ...	{ Khalsa ... Chauth ... Istamarar ... Mafi ...	2,819,033 58,929 18,734 293,206	600,087 3,509 2,368 20,415	538,697 8,358 3,025 56,685	106,979 1,824 253 12,533	1,573,270 45,238 13,083 203,573	232,172 8,221 3,190 39,175	86,587 2,626 706 15,804	14,580 318 321 1,669	333,339 11,165 4,217 56,648
		Total ...	3,189,902	626,379	606,765	121,594	1,835,164	282,758	105,723	16,888	405,369

DIX D.

for Sambat 1954-55 as taken from statement B.

AREA.																Area cropped in the year.
Chahi Sairaba.			Chahi Nahri.	Nahri.			Sairaba.					Barani.				
Hal.	Sabik.	Total.		Hal.	Sabik.	Total.	Hal.	Sabik.	Dariahi.	Khatili.	Total.	Barani.	Dhur.	Total.		
...	20,077 691	51,851 1,541	11,470 38	...	83,398 2,180	69,108 1,013	4,926 ...	74,034 1,013	176,420 3,342	
...	20,678	53,392	11,508	...	85,578	70,121	4,926	75,037	...	
...	132	24,456 3,004	13,358 1,059	...	37,946 4,063	80,504 5,176	11,222 1,055	91,726 6,261	159,896 13,357	
...	132	27,460	14,417	...	42,009	85,680	12,307	97,987	...	
...	6,131 1,432	12,680 1,299	...	18,811 2,751	61,149 30,003	6,922 1,319	68,071 31,322	112,769 39,031	
...	1,543	761	...	2,304	23,428	361	29,792	41,193	
...	9,126	14,740	...	23,836	128,017	8,734	136,752	...	
...	364 8	...	...	364 8	90,121 24,350	2,146 527	92,267 24,877	136,609 34,506	
...	372	...	...	372	11,471	2,673	117,144	...	
...	5,644 13	...	...	...	5,644 13	124,497 11,987	3,738 281	128,235 15,268	188,169 27,275	
...	5,637	...	...	...	5,637	139,481	4,019	143,503	...	
...	43,674 2,092	18,983 328	4,708 111	...	67,363 2,531	111,853 3,482	12,501 409	124,354 3,891	233,300 8,328	
...	45,766	19,311	4,819	...	69,896	115,335	12,910	128,245	...	
...	14,895 1,720	4,016 802	...	...	18,911 2,522	62,242 17,312	3,711 272	65,953 17,584	126,282 29,392	
...	16,515	4,818	...	...	21,433	79,554	3,983	83,537	...	
...	22,634 2,992	25,846 3,614	730 56	471 61	59,681 6,723	63,063 3,814	11,042 445	74,105 4,259	181,085 16,259	
...	25,620	29,460	786	532	66,404	66,877	11,487	78,364	...	
2,598 332	...	2,598 332	505 246	454 239	386 64	840 303	12,164 1,667	3,216 916	1,797 250	589 38	17,766 2,873	61,269 7,582	15,279 1,058	76,548 8,640	161,313 21,829	
2,930	...	2,930	751	693	450	1,143	13,831	4,134	2,047	627	20,639	68,851	16,337	85,188	...	
1,830 446	6 ...	1,836 446	...	...	...	...	9,167 1,422	481 21	418 19	...	10,066 1,462	91,127 7,418	19,982 1,042	111,169 8,460	199,373 17,296
2,276	...	2,232	...	...	...	...	10,589	503	437	20	11,548	99,815	21,033	120,548	...
2,226 1,652	6 ...	2,232 1,652	505 246	454 239	386 64	840 303	138,387 10,507	133,344 11,779	45,161 2,294	1,060 99	319,952 24,679	814,933 114,562	91,469 5,483	906,402 120,045	1,074,315 211,047	
3,878	6	3,884	751	693	450	1,143	148,694	148,576	48,764	1,179	347,402	968,206	98,409	1,066,615	1,955,513	

Errata to the Final Report of the Bharatpur Settlement.

Page	Para.	Line from page	For	Read
5	11	For khalsa of Akhegarh, col. 4	1,337	13,937
		For total of total cols. 4, 5 and 7	626,349, 121,594 and 1,835,164	626,379, 1,156,845, and 1,834,564
6	"	total of Weir	38,358	2,261,931
9	15	Statement, col. 18, for Nagar	5.2	52
		" cols. 8, 12 and 17, for Biyana	26, 33.5 and 12.5	16, 23.5 and 13.5
		" cols. 9, 12, 17 and 18, for total	5.5, 32.5, 1.9 and 5.3	6, 22.5, 19 and 53
11	15	10 from bottom	souht-west	south-west
10	15	9 " "	followign	following
13	17	5 from para. 18	benefited	benefitted
16	23	1	sweet oily	sweet, oily
17	25	1 from para. 26	number of wells is existence in now	number of wells in existence is now
19	27	Statement, cols. 8, 14, 16 and 17	38.56, 232.42, 195.62 and 22.50	38.50, 232.40, 195.32 and 29.50.
21	30	5 from para. 30	benefited	benefitted
23	35	1 from para.	cess	cess
27	48.	6 " "	2enerals	Generals
29	52 (8)	1	fiv	five
32	57	Statement, percentage of other Hindus, &c.	1	10
36	60 (b)	12 from bottom	asests	nssets
39	(i)	13	salt trade tahsils	salt trade in tahsil
41	(m)	13 from (n)	contribution	contribntion
49	67 (2)	14 from (2)	unreliable	unreliable
52	73	Read figures of col. of Patwari	cess for Inam and Grand total	under col. of present pay.
59	82	Statement for Akhegarh, col. 15	30	3
63	88	2 from para	cultivation	cultivators
85	126	Statement for Akhegarh fixed cols. 7 and 11	2,16,859 and 21,990	2,16,856 and 2,19,906
		Total of Nagar, col. 8	2,64,675	2,94,675

Errata to the Final Report of the Bharatpur Settlement—concluded.

Page	Para.	Line from page	For	Read
85	126	For chaks of Rupbas, cols. 6 to 11	101, 2,555, 3,617, 5,088, 5,816 and 5,816	2,555, 3,617, 5,088 5,816, 5,816 and 5,816 respectively
		For total of Weir, cols. 6 to 9	2,24,156, 5,764, 5,764 and 6,898	2,22,156, 4,37,352, 2,39,611 and 4,38,319
		For total of Kham, col. 9	88,532	18,532
		For total of total cols. 4, 6 and 8	1,09,665, 20,50,723 and 90,66,492	19,09,665, 20,60,023 and 20,66,492
93	143	Statement—Read not available	under cols. of cesses for Dig,	Akhagarh and Weir.
		For Kama, col. 8	18,664	18,684
		„ total, col. 13	23,884	25,511
95	145	4 from bottom	blank	blank
107	162	Statement col. new jama for Weir	2,30,391	2,30,390
		Do. do. for total	21,38,638	21,02,638

